

WALSALL CHRONICLE

Thursday, June 12, 2014

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Shop teas up

Going back in time at Edwardian-style cafe

See Page 5



Ken's return

Veterans from our region in D-Day event

See Page 6



Sunny runners

Aldridge 10k event is basked in sunshine

See Back Page



Election due after death of councillor

A BY-ELECTION has been called in Walsall following the death of Labour leader and long-serving councillor Tim Oliver.

Voters will go to the polls on July 24 for the Birchills Leamore ward. Nomination papers are available from now until the closing date of June 27 at 4pm.

Councillor Oliver, whose funeral took place last week, passed away, aged 56, following a battle with cancer.

He represented Birchills and Leamore ward for 18 years and was also director of Palfrey Community Association. He had been leader of the Labour group on Walsall Council since May 2005.

Councillor Oliver's family invited donations to be made to Pancreatic Cancer UK and Macmillan Cancer Support. Hundreds of mourners turned out to pay tribute to Councillor Oliver at last Thursday's memorial service at Walsall Town Hall. Mr Oliver was former captain of Walsall Health Cricket Club's Sunday team. He started playing for the club in the late 1980s along with a number of colleagues from his other team Walsall Phoenix.

A memorial cricket match is planned for later this year, although the exact details have yet to be finalised.

• Devoted – See Page 3

Healthy food scheme starts

A NEW awards scheme for takeaways has been launched in Walsall to encourage healthy eating.

Businesses can take part in the Health Switch scheme where they are asked to provide low fat, low sugar and low salt alternative dishes. Takeaways that meet the criteria for the bronze, silver or gold award will receive a certificate.

Leader of Walsall Council Mike Bird said: "Obesity is on the increase and this scheme aims to help address the problem."

SNUB FURY AS CENTRE TO GO

Hopes on start for hundreds of homes

A MULTI-MILLION pound project which will transform derelict land in Walsall with hundreds of new homes could start within months – years ahead of schedule.

A total of £50 million is being ploughed into the Go-scooter regeneration project it has been announced.

It was initially thought that it may take until 2016 for builders to move onto site – but Walsall Housing Group spokesman Steve Hayes said if plans are approved and funding is secured from the Homes and Communities Agency, work on site will start in October with a full completion date four years later.

Walsall Housing Group is now aiming to get funding secured for the 412 home scheme – part of a partnership with national housing and regeneration company Keepmoat. It is being described as the most significant development project the housing group has undertaken.

Carole Wildman of WHG said: "The completed scheme would see a total regeneration of the area with a mix new homes for both rent and sale."

A total of 177 affordable rent and 235 properties for sale are being planned for land off Shakespeare Crescent, Keats Road and Chaucer Road.

Orchestra in church date

A CONCERT will be staged at a church in Willenhall on Saturday. Walsall Symphony Orchestra will perform at Holy Trinity Church, in Short Heath, from 7.30pm.

A summer fair will also take place at the church on June 28 from 10am to 4pm. There will be stalls, a tombola and raffle.

The church, which opened in 1855, is fundraising for its restoration appeal. It launched the appeal to raise £65,000 in 2011 to make vital repairs to the building.

Ellie makes waves as children's author



Ellie Simmonds signs a copy of her book for Caitlin Gallagher, aged nine, of Erdington, at Waterstones in Birmingham

SHE has proved herself a superstar in the swimming pool and a budding Mary Berry in the kitchen. Now the multi-talented Paralympian Ellie Simmonds has turned her hand to writing children's fiction.

The Walsall swimmer was back in the Midlands when she signed copies of her latest book, a work of fiction which makes good use of her culinary know-how.

Queues formed at Waterstones book shop in Birmingham on Saturday as the four-times gold medallist autographed copies of Ellie's Magic Bakery and chatted to fans.

The book, just published, may be her first fiction work but it is very much based on her own experience. It tells the story of a girl called Ellie who, like the author, has achondroplasia, the most common form of dwarfism.

In the fairytale version, the character grows up with cruel relatives who run a bakery. Her world changes for the better when she finds a magic recipe for a cake that solves all her problems.

The 19-year-old, of Aldridge, loved reading as a child, particularly the Tracy Beaker books by top-selling author Jacqueline Wilson, and has long harboured a desire to write

her own fantasy book about baking. Speaking recently about the finished result, she said: "It's magical. It's about how the character can overcome things. It's trying to show kids that if they set their mind to something, they can overcome anything."

Ellie was the youngest British athlete at the 2008 summer Paralympics in Beijing aged just 13.

She won two gold medals and followed the feat with two more golds at the 2012 Paralympics. Last year she was crowned star baker when she took part in Comic Relief's celebrity version of The Great British Bake Off.

Report by Adam Burling

COMMUNITY leaders have lashed out at the council claiming their wishes to save a neighbourhood centre from demolition were ignored as the bulldozers move in.

Dartmouth House, in Walsall is being pulled down, despite a campaign to save it.

Services have been moved out of the venue after Ryecroft Neighbourhood Resource Centre was given a 25-year lease to run services in New Forest Road.

It comes after campaigners gathered outside Walsall Town Hall to protest against the plans.

The Dartmouth Neighbourhood Forum and Community Care Entertainments had been trying to put together a business plan to run community services from Dartmouth House.

But council bosses in Walsall said more than £287,000 would have to be spent on repairs and maintenance over five years to preserve the facility, which was labelled unaffordable.

Services such as the NHS rehabilitation centre have moved out of the building, in Ryecroft Place, which is now vacant.

Ward councillor Ian Henderson said: "If Dartmouth House had been saved, the community had planned to run a day centre with meals, evening entertainment, health facilities, welfare advice and eventually a tenant Management Association for the benefit of more than 350 local elderly residents.

Ryecroft is one of a number of areas in Walsall that have been forgotten over many years with closure of the local library and a num-

ber of shops, leaving very little for local residents."

He added the community had been "totally ignored and snubbed". Pam Spinks, chairwoman of the Dartmouth Neighbourhood Forum, said: "We are amazed at the speed the demolition is taking place. I would also be amazed if any of the decision makers had set foot in Dartmouth House and seen what an asset it would have been to the community."

Council chiefs stood by their decision to demolish the property during a cabinet meeting where it was discussed earlier this year. Council leader Mike Bird said he wanted to see the building demolished as soon as possible as the council could not afford to pay the costs of security. The demolition of Dartmouth House is expected to be completed by the middle of next month.

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Building work starts for new homes

BUILDING work is under way at a former door factory site, where new homes are being created.

The old Jebron site in Darlaston is being converted into 55 houses and 12 flats under a scheme to increase housing and improve the area's image.

Construction work is under way for the new properties being built on the land between Bright Street

and School Street. Hoardings surround the premises off Darlaston Road in King's Hill and digging machines can be seen at work.

The scheme was granted planning permission by Walsall Council last year. Jebron was involved in the manufacturing of doors and fittings, and went into administration in December 2010 with the loss of 65 jobs.

Walsall-based foundry group

Chamberlin & Hill then bought the assets of Jebron Ltd for £162,000.

Darlaston South ward representative Councillor Chris Bott said: "This is just what the King's Hill community has been asking for. The new development is very much welcomed."

The project by developers Galliford Try Partnerships has attracted £50,000 towards improvements at

King's Hill Park. There are also plans in the pipeline to transform the old Servis UK washing machine site in nearby Darlaston Road that was demolished more than three years ago.

A planning application for hundreds of homes has been submitted by developer West Register Ltd, which is part of Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) to transform the land.

Action by fire crews planned in dispute

FIREFIGHTERS across the West Midlands and Staffordshire will be on strike today, Thursday, as part of three days of strike this month, the Fire Brigades Union has announced.

The action is also set to take place on Friday 13 and Saturday 21 as the FBU's dispute with the Government over pensions continues. Members will walk out for 24 hours from 9am for this week's protest and for seven hours on June 21 between 10am and 5pm. It is the eighth round of strikes since the dispute began between the FBU and the Government in September.

They last went on strike in May against the Government's plans for a later retirement age, as well as changes to pensions. The union argues that firefighters in their late 50s face being sacked or seeing their pension reduced by half.

Staffordshire Chief Fire officer Peter Dartford has warned residents to be extra vigilant. He said: "It is very disappointing that another strike, consisting of two separate periods, has been announced. As before we will be putting contingency plans in place to provide the best possible emergency response cover."

Emergency care in focus

HEALTH bosses are urging residents to take part in a survey over the future of emergency care in Walsall.

Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is undertaking the public consultation until August 14 on the future of urgent care services. Chiefs are looking at what facilities to provide for people suffering from a condition that isn't life-threatening but can't wait for a routine GP appointment.

Emergency care is for life-threatening illness or injuries such as chest pains, or loss of consciousness.

Summer fair

A SUMMER fair will take place in Darlaston this weekend. The event will be held at Darlaston Methodist Church in Slater Street on Saturday. It will run from 11.30am. Attractions on offer for those who go along includes sales of bric-a-brac, cakes and plants.

Helicopter scrambled over boy racers blight**Yobs attack dozens of trees**

Urban forestry officer Jason Simpson with the vandalised trees on Aldridge Airport

A TOTAL of 70 trees were destroyed, damaged or stolen in a vandal attack in Walsall.

The trees were targeted at Aldridge Airport over the weekend and included some which had been planted by school children.

Yobs destroyed 20 street trees and then damaged or stole around 50 others put in by volunteers in a community orchard. The majority of which were stolen.

Officers from Walsall Council's clean and green services have launched a clean up after the attack, which comes after a memorial tree to nine-year-old Jamie Cartwright was vandalised.

He died from an infection caused by dust of building work inside Birmingham Children's Hospital while receiving follow-up treatment after twice overcoming leukaemia. The tree was put in Walsall Arboretum in his memory.

More than 30 trees at Warley Woods Park in Smethwick also had bark stripped off their trunks using a knife last month.

Leisure and culture chief councillor Anthony Harris said: "I just can't understand why vandals would do this - ruining both the efforts of hard-working volunteers and the environmental benefits that trees bring. We will reassess the trees that have been attacked at Aldridge Airport in the autumn and consider whether to replace them."

"In the meantime I would urge anyone with any information to pass this on to the police. Let's get the culprits stopped."

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Firefighters called to fire in kitchen

FIREFIGHTERS were called to a kitchen fire after a pan was left unattended on a cooker.

Crews from Willenhall were called to a property in Birmingham Street at around 2.30pm on Wednesday. The occupants were uninjured in the blaze which left the kitchen clouded in smoke.

Watch commander David Aston said: "The pan had been left on the stove and the kitchen was heavily smokelogged. This could have been a lot worse."

Woman in plea for help to find old pal

A WOMAN from Willenhall is trying to trace an old friend who she worked with on an RAF base in Rutland.

Wendy Mills, formerly known as Buckingham, is hoping to trace Anne Wickson who is believed to now live in the Walsall area.

The pair worked as bar staff at the Naafi bar at RAF Cottesmore in the mid 1980s.

Anyone who might have any information is asked to call Mrs Mills on 07506 747665.

Organisers getting ready for carnival

ORGANISERS of Willenhall Carnival are making last minute preparations ahead of the event on Saturday. The carnival will take place in Willenhall Memorial Park, in Pinson Road, from 11am.

There will be a stunt show, live music, a hog roast, petting zoo, funfair, inflatables and stalls.

Admission is £1 for adults and 50p for children.

Focus on cash for good cause

AN opticians helped raise £500 for the Teenage Cancer Trust, after being inspired by Stephen Sutton. Specsavers, of High Street, Brownhills, were one of 30 stalls at a family fun day at Oak Park Leisure Centre. This included an 'MOT' service providing cleaning and adjustments for customers' specs, and selling 'loom' bracelets.

Road delays due

MOTORISTS will face delays during gas main works starting on Friday. Temporary traffic signals will be in place along Coltham Road, Willenhall. Work near Walkers Fold junction will go on until June 19.

Pension robber in 18 month jail term

A ROBBER who picked an elderly man's pension from his pocket while he waited at a bus stop has been jailed for 18 months.

The 75-year-old has just collected his weekly pension from Caldmore Post Office in Walsall when drug addict Keith Reid pounced, stealing the £140. Images from street cameras were played in court. Reid, aged 47, of Wednesbury Road, was quickly identified by two women who were at the scene.

Miss Alka Brigue, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court that Reid had committed 81 previous offences. She said he was caught at a nearby garage where he had spent £10 on a mobile phone top-up.

She said he had tested positive for cocaine and opiates following his arrest.

Mr Stephen Cadwaladr, defending, said Reid was now receiving treatment for his drug taking. "He recognises that at his age he is getting too old to be stealing money for drugs."

Reid admitted an offence of robbery relating to the incident on February 3. A further offence of possession of cocaine will lie off file after the court heard it was not in the interest of justice to proceed with that matter.

Club swings in to mark milestone

AN Aldridge golf club is swinging into action to mark its 40th anniversary with a special event on Saturday.

Druid's Heath Golf Club in Stonnall Road is holding a barbecue and fun day and there will be two competitions going on during the course of the day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon - both will be Texas Scrambles with 25 teams of four players.

The date has been chosen to mark the time in the spring of 1974 when the club was opened having been converted from farmland.

Prize presentations will take place after each contest, with a limited number of meal tickets available for non-golfers, as 200 members hopefully enjoy the day, as England get ready for their game against Italy.

For further information, contact the club on 01922 555595.



The cars approach the Town Hall during the event to celebrate Labour leader Tim Oliver's life



Bearers seen arriving with the coffin for the ceremony held last Thursday

Hundreds pay tribute to 'devoted' councillor Tim

By Laura Blyth

HE was described as 'determined' and 'devoted' and someone with a 'wicked sense of humour' and 'innate courage.'

Last Thursday, hundreds of mourners turned out to say their final goodbyes to the Labour group leader on Walsall Council, Tim Oliver, who lost his long battle with cancer last month.

Family and friends paid emotional tributes to the 56-year-old during a memorial service at Walsall Town Hall.

Mr Oliver had been councillor for the Birchills and Leamore ward for 18 years since 1996 and was also director of Palfrey Community Association.

He had a 12-year stint as leader of the Labour party.

Walsall Labour Councillor Sean Coughlan, who was first introduced to Mr Oliver in the 1980s, struggled to hold back the tears as he delivered his eulogy.

He said: "I have had some really good times with Tim and some difficult ones. This is probably the most difficult one.

Integrity

"He was the best leader Walsall Council never had. The thing that really shone out was his commitment to Walsall Labour group. His integrity was second to none. He had a wicked sense of humour. Tim loved the banter of being in a political party."

Councillor Coughlan said despite being in pain during the final stages of his illness, his friend, who was a fanatical Wrexham FC fan, never lost the will to discuss political issues or his dry sense of humour.

Mr Oliver's death came less than two days after his party gained two seats in the local elections and look set to form a minority administration. He passed away four days before his 57th birthday.

Councillor Coughlan said his late friend 'needed' to know how his beloved Labour had done in the May elections before he slipped away.

And he added spending time with Welsh-born Mr Oliver during his final days in hospital and taking care of him had been 'one of the most humbling experiences' of his life. Through tears he finished off by saying: "Tim my friend, I will miss you."

Mr Oliver's friend Tim Howard also



Town Hall workers line the street to pay their respects to the former councillor



Left, regeneration chief Simon Tranter with Graham Wilkes



The coffin is taken inside the Town Hall where tributes were paid



Courage – Tim Oliver



The order of service

spoke at the service. The pair met 30 years ago at Alumwell School, where they both worked. Mr Howard said: "He had many, many friends. Tim's dignity, humanity and innate courage drew people to him.

"He was a very rare person. You always knew where you stood with him. He had no ego. He was my true friend. He will always be in my head and my heart."

The funeral cortège arrived at Palfrey Community Centre at 12.30pm where it stopped for 30 minutes for people to pay their respects. The service at the town hall began at 1.30pm and lasted an hour.

Mr Oliver's coffin, decorated with red and white flowers, was carried into the town

hall. A number of Welsh songs, including Ar Hyd Y Nos and Myfanwy, were sung at the service, and The Red Flag was played, which is the semi-official anthem of the Labour Party.

Mr Oliver's brother Andie also paid tribute to his sibling at the service, saying: "He was always there and prepared to fight my corner."

"Tim the son was challenging at times but always there for his parents and a great source of pride for both of them. He was determined and devoted, and I always thought I would see him again."

He described Mr Oliver, a keen cricket player, as being a 'warrior' out on the pitch

and he joked that he was 'not too shoddy a player' either.

Mr Oliver was former captain of Walsall Health Cricket Club's Sunday team.

He started playing for the club in the late 1980s along with a number of colleagues from his other team Walsall Phoenix.

A memorial cricket match is planned for later this year, although the exact details have yet to be finalised.

After the service, a private funeral took place followed by refreshments at the council house. Donations were made to two charities – Pancreatic Cancer UK and Macmillan Cancer Support – at the request of Mr Oliver's family.

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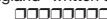
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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



THIS is a lost cause but, as the flag-waving intensifies, I will make the point once again. The flag of England is the red cross of St George on a white background. That is all. It does not have "England" written across it.



THE newly refurbished terminal at Heathrow will be known as The Queen's Terminal. Sounds like a gloomy prognosis.



If you believe everything you read, you may think that a couple of years from now the Government is to launch a new, simple state pension of about £150 a week for everyone. Think again. And ask yourself this: with the obvious exception of politicians, has anything simple ever come out of Whitehall? Of course not. The Civil Service does not do simple. It creates magnificent careers and builds mighty empires on complexity. Consider these two statements from the Government's own website: 1) The full new State Pension will be no less than £148.40 per week. 2) The amount you get can be higher or lower depending on your National Insurance record. So in other words, you will definitely get £148.40 but, er, you might not. It all depends on private pension funds being contracted out, or in, and other bewildering stuff. Far from being simple, the New State Pension is so damn complicated that they have set up a special phone-back service to give people a pension forecast. You ring them with your details and they call back a week later with the good (or bad) news. Except that they may not. My phone-back appointment was fixed between 8-10am one morning this week. With nine minutes to go, at 9.51am a lady rang to say sorry, but the system had crashed. The next convenient date was June 23. I wonder how much of that £148.40 per week will go straight into the vast and ruinously expensive Whitehall machine.



ALL this digital stuff is very clever but there are times when you can't beat newsprint. Newspaper articles on the D-Day 70th anniversary will be saved in millions of households and lovingly folded away with Granddad's medal ribbons and yellowing photos, in the hope that future generations will be interested. True, you can save such things on memory sticks and CDs. But technology changes and today's state-of-the-art gizmos will become about as useful as a floppy disc. Ink on paper is for ever.



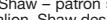
AND if you despair of today's kids ever showing interest or respect for the sacrifices of two world wars, just give them time. I recall one trip to Normandy when the middle-aged men on the coach were having a right old rant about the youth of today. It turned out that those respectable gentlemen, the salt of the earth who solemnly bowed their heads at the cemeteries had once been, without exception, Teddy Boys.



THE European Commission says Britain should improve its economy by curbing the Help-to-Buy project and bumping up council tax. Always good to be advised by the experts, isn't it? This, of course, is the same Commission whose EU budget has yet to satisfy its own auditors and whose member states include some of the worst basket-case economies in the world. After the European Commission's advice on economics, watch out for North Korea's forthcoming lecture to Britain on canine welfare.



GEORGE Bernard Shaw – patron saint of sub-editors. In his 1912 play Pygmalion, Shaw describes Professor Henry Higgins trying to improve Eliza Doolittle's diction by reciting: "The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain" (which Lerner and Lowe later incorporated in the hit musical My Fair Lady). Then, this week, the Spanish king announced his abdication and thousands of sub-editors realised this was a story about, wait for it, a reign in Spain. You probably saw the results. Headline heaven.



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City university to stage an open day

A UNIVERSITY is holding an open day this weekend

The University of Wolverhampton will be inviting prospective students to take a look around on June 14.

The city campus in Wolverhampton and Walsall Campus on Gorway Road, Walsall will host the day from 10am to 3pm.

Officials from the university are inviting hopefuls to meet prospective lecturers.

For further information people can visit www.wlv.ac.uk.

Sizzling way to help good cause

FAMILIES are being urged to dust off their barbecues to raise cash for charity.

Domestic violence charity The Haven Wolverhampton is calling on people in the city to help raise cash by holding outdoor gatherings.

Michaela Hodges, donor development assistant, said: "There are lots of ways that people can get involved and they can make it as easy or as innovative as they wish." Fundraising packs are available by calling 01902 572126.

Saddlers new lounge to open

A NEW club lounge at the Banks's Stadium will open later this month, creating 10 jobs. The 1888 suite is currently being kitted out at Walsall FC and will feature a pitch view, a bar and five television screens.

Commercial Manager, Nina Best, said: "We are hoping to welcome between 80-100 new members for the inaugural Season who will benefit from being part of such a unique club."

Village hosting memories event

A SELECTION of historic photographs, artefacts and memorabilia will go on display on Saturday.

The Memories of Rushall event will take place at the community centre in Springsfield, Walsall.

It is being organised by the Rushall Development Group for Saturday between 11am and 4pm. Admission is free.

Ramblers' date

WALKERS will be going on a seven mile stroll of Craven Arms on Sunday. The Walsall Group of Ramblers will take in Callow Hill and Flounders Folly. Call 01922 637850 or visit www.walsallramblers.co.uk

Service to begin for brain injured

A REHABILITATION service for brain injury patients will open on June 18 doors in Willenhall with the help of a £250,000 lottery grant.

Charity Headway Black Country helps people who have suffered an injury through an accident, an infection or stroke or haemorrhage.

A portion of the cash awarded by the National Lottery's BIG Reaching Communities pot is being put towards the opening of the centre in West Midlands House, Gipsy Lane.

The charity, based in Dudley, also attracted a £4,000 grant from the Eveson Charitable Trust towards the scheme to expand its services in Walsall borough and Wolverhampton.

Headway Black Country chief executive Stephen Phipps said the grants will be used for refurbishment.

He said Headway would also cover the staffing costs.

"We are really excited to have got the premises up and running in Willenhall to extend the reach of the charity to people who are struggling with the effects of injuries," he said.

"It will also give us an opportunity to offer activities with regard to care and caring."

Looking to trace family

WALSALL Council is trying to trace the family or friends of a formal naval man who died at a nursing home in the borough.

Charles Bonner, aged 78, used to live at Oakwood Lodge, Chaucer Avenue, Willenhall. He died at Arboretum Nursing Home in Forest Lane, Walsall, on May 23, where he was receiving care.

Julie Faulkner, from environmental health at Walsall Council, said: "We understand he used to work for the Navy and had two sons." Anyone with information can call 01922 653018.

Family sought

THE Black Country coroner's office is looking to trace family members of Anthony O'Grady. Mr O'Grady was born on January 13, 1957, and lived on Brook Street in Smethwick. He died on June 1. Any relatives should contact Elaine Huckfield on 0845 352 7490.

Book lifts lid on concerns over Kyle's death

Dr David Drew a former consultant

A DOCTOR who lost two appeals against unfair dismissal after emailing a prayer to colleagues has written a book about his battle with NHS bosses.

Dr David Drew claimed he was sacked as senior paediatric consultant for Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust in December 2010 after emailing a prayer to colleagues and being told to 'refrain from using religious references' at work.

The doctor had also raised concerns over a case where an infant was sent home and died and alleged there was bullying and understaffed wards. But the trust had argued that Dr Drew, of Anchorage Road, Sutton Coldfield,

had failed to accept recommendations made following an independent review sparked by him lodging a grievance against a colleague.

He was dismissed for gross misconduct and insubordination, for failing to accept recommendations from the review and for also disclosing confidential information.

His new book titled Little Stories of Life and Death launched at the Royal Society of Medicine in London. It charts Dr Drew's life story and experiences of working in hospitals at home and abroad.

Dr Drew, aged 66, revealed he initially did not want to write the book and was urged to publish his experiences by his eldest son

Simon, 40. "He started writing it up, but I immediately felt I could write my own story better. I feel I've got things off my chest. We did a lot of research." The autobiography is dedicated to Walsall youngster Kyle Keen who died, aged 16 months, in 2006. His story and photograph are featured in the account.

Kyle, was admitted to Walsall Manor Hospital with a brain bleed. He had been shaken by his stepfather Tyrone Matthews, who was given a six-and-a-half prison sentence for manslaughter.

A review into his treatment is being carried out by Manor chiefs. His book costs £10.99 and will soon be at Waterstones in Walsall.

Temps' contracts extended due to computer glitches

TWENTY-FIVE temporary staff taken on at a cost of £100,000 to help with a new hospital computer system could have their contracts extended after problems continued.

Walsall Manor Hospital staff complained that the new system actually slowed them down. The new Lorenzo system aims to improve the way patient information is managed.

But frustrated workers say they are struggling to fit all their work into their day, fearing it could lead to mistakes in booking appointments and clinics.

Workers were recruited on a three-month contract to help - but bosses say the issues are taking longer than expected to solve.

A report by Steve Darkes, director of informatics, says: "A number of issues have arisen as part of the implementation that the Trust needs to get on top of to provide a stable base for the staff to adapt to the new system and for the Trust to have timely and accurate information.

He says the staff have made a 'valuable' contribution and that progress is being made.

But he admits: "Undoubtedly there is still a high degree of frustration for end users in getting to grips with the system."

The Lorenzo system will eventually mean the removal of the need for staff to physically retrieve paper files from storage rooms.

Latest figures show the cost of temporary workers at the hospital has dropped to below £1.5 million a month, as bosses battle to save money. The bill rose to as high as £2m last year and was still up to £1.8m on agency, locum and bank workers at the start of 2014.

Tea shop takes villagers back in time

PLACES are on offer at a conference on issues affecting the Caribbean island of Jamaica which is being held in the Midlands.

The Jamaican Diaspora UK National Conference will feature information regarding land and property registration, customs, education, immigration and births, deaths and marriage registry details. The event is on June 13 to 15.

Advisors from six Jamaican government agencies will be available to present updates plus offer one-on-one advice to delegates.

The event will be held at the Centennial Centre in Birmingham on June 13 and 14 followed by a closing service on June 15 at the New Testament Church of God, George Road, Lozells.

Guests will include Minister of State with responsibility for Diaspora Affairs Arnaldo Brown.

Places which are booked at the start of £35 in or £40 on the door. More details are available via text to 07931 261707 or email to conference@jamaicandiasporauk.org.

PEOPLE in a Staffordshire village can now take time out for afternoon tea at a new Edwardian-style cafe near a popular park.

The Old School Tea Rooms in Essington is recreating the ambience of a bygone age with its early 20th-century style parlour. The Victorian Parlour has opened at Brownshore Community Centre, in the former Brownshore First School.

"We wanted to create something in the village where people could pop in for a cup of tea or a cake," says chairman of Essington Parish Council, Councillor David Clift. "We also wanted somewhere that was affordable, and we have done very well since we opened." He said the project had also created four new jobs, which had all gone to people living in the area.

The council, which is running the project, spent several months looking for artefacts to deck out the premises with. Wal paper was chosen to reflect the 19th century theme, and an antique china cabinet and over mantle was sourced to add to the atmosphere.

Councillor Clift, who also sits on South Staffordshire District Council, added that several parish councils had visited the site with a view to opening similar schemes.

Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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ONE of the men at the centre of the Trojan Horse scandal, where certain schools in Birmingham are alleged to have been infiltrated by Muslim extremists, is an Australian called Sheikh Shady.

Of course, if true, the allegations are no laughing matter. But if you want to be taken seriously as an international preacher of hate, isn't it better to change your name to something that doesn't make you sound like an Eminem tribute act?

■■■■■

MORE words of wisdom from the ever lovable Katie Hopkins, who has decided to target Britain's old folk with her latest diatribe. Apparently, they get in her way, particularly when fumbling for their change in the supermarket, and says 'society has tried giving old people the hint that they are not wanted.'

"What's the point in living longer if all we're going to do is get in the way or sit in expensive nursing homes unable to recognise our own reflection in the mirror?", she asks, adding that she hopes to be 'bumped off' before she ever reaches old age.

Now how does the old saying go - prevention is better than cure?

■■■■■

DRINKING red wine improves your memory, according to a new study by a university with a very long name in Berlin. The study added that it can improve short-term recall and increase concentration.

Meanwhile, drinking lots of beer... sorry, what was I saying? Oh yes, drinking red wine improves your memory.

■■■■■

Professor Sara Mills, a discourse researcher at Sheffield Hallam University, said pupils could instead refer to their teachers by their first names.

I don't know what a 'discourse researcher' is, but I would imagine it is something along the lines of a teacher who doesn't actually teach. Well not children, anyway.

But while the battle lines are now being drawn between the 'progressives' and the 'traditionalists', has nobody ever thought that the sensible course of action would be somewhere in the middle.

How about teachers tell the youngsters what their full names are, and then explain to them that they have to address them as 'Sir' or 'Miss' because the teachers are figures of authority, and the pupils are their subordinates?

Giving the children a lesson in the conventions they will have to adhere to in life outside the classroom is surely more useful than inviting them to take part in a guessing game about 'what Miss is really called'.



D-Day veteran of Gold beach, Ken Reynolds from Hednesford, aged 90



The Princess Royal receives a salute from veterans during the Drumhead service on Southsea Common



The Princess Royal during the Drumhead service on Southsea Common in Hampshire

POLITICS



I don't suppose you get much time for reading," one MP said to me this week.

It turns out this particular Parliamentarian, speaking off the record, does at the moment.

I've been recommended the Robert Harris novel, An Officer And A Spy, which the anonymous MP has managed to race through thanks to an unusually long prorogation of Parliament (if we were unkind we might say 'holiday').

When Her Majesty's official State Opening of Parliament contained a speech of merely 10 minutes there were claims that the Coalition Government had 'run out of steam'. But with an election next year the Coalition also cannot risk running out of time for any crucial legislation to get through both Houses.

■■■■■

Labour MP Ian Austin has called for a referendum on Europe to be held before the next election.

His stance is at odds with his own party, which only considers a referendum necessary if there is a transfer of powers to Brussels. Like it or not, the rise of UKIP means the Tories and eventually Labour are going to have to grasp this nettle. David Cameron says he'll do it by the end of 2017 but only if he wins the next election.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin's plan, while not popular with either of the big parties, would mean whoever wins next year governs knowing whether or not they are going to have to withdraw Britain from the union. If the referendum is delayed, the next five years will mean the Government having to come up with a plan for each eventuality.

Well at least it would give them something to do.

■■■■■

Dudley South MP Chris Kelly has extended an olive branch to newly-elected Labour and UKIP councillors and offered to work with them. He's sent his contact details and even goes far enough to say what many Tories dare not: "UKIP are our political cousins."

UKIP loves to say how it takes votes off Labour as much as from the Tories, evidenced by its council seat gains in areas like Coseley.

The big picture shows it's the Tories who suffer most. Tony Blair won three terms because he appealed to the centre ground, as opposed to core Labour supporters. What Chris Kelly is doing now is talking about how he shares 'somewhere in the region of three-quarters of the views of the UKIP councillors elected'.

He will have to avoid appearing to dilute the things that attracted former Labour voters to him in the first place. But if the Tories want to neutralise UKIP the election will be fought not on the centre ground, but on common ground.

D-Day veterans in heroes' return

Veterans returned to the scene to mark 70 years since D-Day. DANIEL WAINWRIGHT reports

A SPITFIRE plane escorted a group of West Midlands war veterans back to Normandy for the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings.

Meanwhile others who went to France were greeted as heroes by schoolchildren who wanted to pose for pictures with them.

Ken Reynolds, aged 90, from Hednesford, Geoff Ensor, 90, of Merry Hill, Wolverhampton, 88-year-old Ron Davies from Walsall and Frank Corbett from Bloxwich were part of a group of 31 people flown into Normandy in 10 private jets organised by the millionaire advertising agency boss Trevor Beattie.

And as a special surprise the veterans were accompanied part of the way by a Spitfire.

Milestone

Funds were raised through Birmingham-born Mr Beattie's charity, the Jack and Ada Beattie Foundation.

Working with comedian Eddie Izzard, Mr Beattie helped to raise funds to make sure veterans could make the trip back for the milestone occasion.

Another group of six West Midlands war veterans also travelled over with a group from the ACE Academy in Tipton.

Joe Davies, a 91-year-old former police superintendent from Compton, served with the Royal Army Service Corps.

He spent last Thursday in Arrmonches where children ran up to veterans and asked to kiss them on the cheek.



The Prince of Wales meets Normandy veterans of the Glider Pilot Regiment at Pegasus Bridge, Normandy

He said: "It's very emotional. It is a fantastic atmosphere and I've never seen anything like it."

"There are so many people who have wanted to take photographs with us."

"Children have been coming up to say 'thank you very much'. We're going to Caen where we will lay wreaths."

"It is our privilege and honour to be here."

Others with Mr Davies were Arthur Jones, aged 88 from Pendeford, 91-year-old Stanley Caldicott, from Warley, who served with the RAF, and Dennis Moodie, also 91 and from Lichfield, who

was a Royal Artillery wireless operator with the 94th field regiment and Dennis Thompson, aged 88 and from Muxton in Telford.

The 70th anniversary of D-Day proved the last formal event for the Normandy Veterans Association.

On Thursday, the Princess Royal led tributes to the heroes who took part and the many who died in the landings in 1944.

Anne, commodore in chief of the Royal Navy in the Portsmouth area, attended a drumhead service on Southsea Common, Portsmouth, along with veterans and serving members of the armed forces. It included a demonstration of a beach assault by British Marines and their Dutch counterparts.

Following a rendition of the Last Post, a silence was held to remember those who died in the landings and the service concluded with the National Anthem.

Matthew Guymer, 90, a former Mayor of Stafford, who served as a major with the 11th Hussars Prince Albert's Own, said: "I think it's the last time I will be able to come down at my age. I am very proud and I am delighted to have the opportunity to meet the other veterans."



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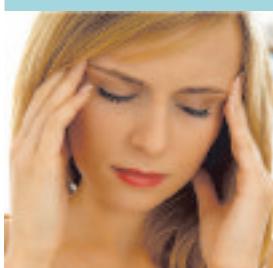
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Rip-off? Chancel be a fine thing

IS chancel repair a scam? Homeowners are charged a one off insurance payment, when purchasing their property for chancel repair. What is chancel repair?

It is an ancient law which makes homeowners responsible for repairs to their local churches, in particular 'all that lies behind the altar'. I do not know if that is from the congregation's view, or the view of the vicar. Solicitors on completion of a house purchase will offer you a form to cover these repairs, an insurance premium which is payable to a firm in London, to cover all costs,

should a local church ask you for monies for such repairs.

If chancel repair laws still exist why do churches have appeals to repair their churches? Why do they not claim on homeowner's insurance?

Is this another scam with insurance? Are solicitors and obscure London addresses making a mint out of new homeowners? If anyone can throw some light on this subject I would be very interested to find out if such an ancient law exists.

A PARKER, Willenhall

Sad loss of brilliant councillor

LETTERS

POST

Walsall Chronicle,
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

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Thanks for support during the elections

FOLLOWING the local and European elections I would like to thank the people of Birchills-Leamore who have elected me to represent them for the second time on Walsall Council.

It is an honour to represent the ward and I am humbled by the trust placed in me by so many.

I would of course like to thank my hardworking team, Cllr Tina Jukes and

my agent Chris Jones. I would also like to thank my departed colleague, the late Councillor Tim Oliver, for his advice and encouragement. He was a proud Welshman, but was even more proud to make Walsall his home and call its people friends.

Rest in peace Tim, Ffarw fy ffrind.
CLLR LEE JEAVONS
Birchills-Leamore

Tim would debate an issue with the passion it deserved on e-mail or verbally and take that debate seriously, but once that debate was over he would leave it alone and get on with other aspects of his life.

He never took the debate personally, which was another mark of the man.

I PAYNE
Walsall

AS the media and retail trade build the hype for the World Cup fans will be reading up on match schedules to organise their viewing arrangements. Brazil is a country of amazing beauty, and harsh poverty. Many will dream of being there to take part in the 24 day spectacular, the biggest football event on the planet. Let's hope England's young squad produce performances to raise a cheer. Winning ways would boost everyone's 'feel good factor', give the brewing trade a lift and encourage youngsters to play the game.

CLLR DOUG JAMES, Horton Street, Walsall

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Tell truth on op delays

I READ your front page headline (May 22) re Walsall Manor Hospital, with interest, as I may have an idea to save it some money.

A government ruling states referral to operation must be within 18 weeks. Yet my wife has been waiting for a knee operation for more than 30 weeks.

She has not been offered any alternative, and nobody has had the decency to give a positive date despite numerous contact with the Patients Advice and Liaison Service (Pals) and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which blamed winter disruption. The Staffordshire influx the first time we have heard that excuse. Why can't somebody just tell us the truth.

The saving target at the Manor is £10m. A good start could be made by disbanding Pals and CCG.

B STRINGER
Brownhills

Horrendous bridge work

IT'S amazing the news you read in your local newspaper. The renewal of the railway bridge in Broad Lane, Bloxwich, is going to take another six weeks.

As one of many homes affected, Network Rail should have been keeping residents up to date with progress. However, communication has been non-existent.

The disturbance has been horrendous. Apparently, Network Rail do not give compensation. I suppose everyone concerned will be lining up for the photo when the bridge is finished.

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It's a wrap for miner's statue in fundraiser



The Miner's statue which volunteers have bandaged as part of the Big Bandage campaign

THE Brownhills Miner statue has had one of its legs bandaged to raise funds for Birmingham Childrens Hospital's big bandage appeal which aims to raise £4 million to transform its 30-year-old cancer ward.

The 30ft statue at the junction of High Street, Pelsall Road and Chester Road, was installed in 2006 and can be seen for miles.

Money raised from the appeal will support the ground-breaking work at the hospital and help to improve the facilities.

Last year organisers wrapped up Birmingham Bullring's famous bull in bandages.

Ambassador Amanda Bailes said the miner's statue was chosen because it is an iconic piece of art work.

She said: "Every year the hospital stages its big bandage event to collect money and people are encouraged to wear bandages to raise awareness of the work the hospital does and raise money to keep it going."

Uncertain future of iconic HQ building

UNCERTAINTY surrounds the future of the iconic Walsall Police Station building after councillors disagreed over what should happen to the building when officers move out.

The station is set to close with officers moved into the council's civic centre to cut costs. Walsall's Conservative Council leader Mike Bird has previously revealed the council was keen to take over the site.

And he said bosses could even look to attract a hotel chain to take it over – if the police were willing to sell it to the council.



The building in Green Lane

will end up as a blight on the landscape with nothing being done to it. So we would need to make sure that any plans were viable."

Up to 200 officers would relocate to the Darwall Street civic centre. The current Bloxwich Police Station would become the borough's main HQ. Senior figures had raised concerns that a police presence would be lost in the heart of the borough.

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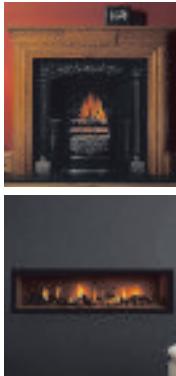
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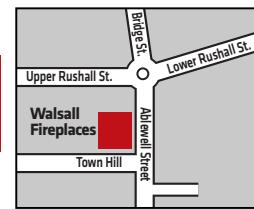
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Miss England hopeful up for final despite illness

SHE was supposed to be fundraising ahead of her appearance in the grand final of Miss England.

But instead Shelley-Marie Sumner was forced to spend five days in hospital after being struck down by shingles.

Miss Sumner, who was crowned Miss Black Country in February, had to cancel several important fundraisers due to her illness, including a 22-mile hike over the Malvern Hills.

It also meant her fundraising campaign to raise hundreds of pounds for charity was severely hampered.

But the 22-year-old freelance dance and drama instructor is now back on her feet and preparing for the prestigious Miss England final which takes place in Torquay this weekend.

She said: "It's been a hard few weeks for me. I was admitted into New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton on May 22. I got shingles in my eye socket. The doctors said it was an airborne infection."

"Because I was in hospital I had to cancel a fun day I'd organised in Walsall and also a hike over the Malvern Hills."

"It's been a massive setback for me because fundraising plays such a massive part in the competition. It really has hampered my preparations."

"I have let the organisers of Miss England know what happened so they understand why I haven't raised as much money as the other girls."

Miss Sumner, who lives in Bentley, Walsall, will compete against 59 other women in the final of Miss England this weekend.

She has so far raised around £100 for charity as part of her involvement in the contest. She took part in Race for Life at Walsall Arboretum last month before she came down with shingles.

As part of her Miss England in-



Miss England finalist Shelly Marie Sumner with her sponsor Jade Hampson
volvement she has also had to make an environmentally-friendly item of clothing, which was a dress made from scraps of leather.

Miss Sumner added: "I'm really looking forward to the final. I've got my family coming down with me. I really wanted to win Miss Black Coun-

try which I did. It would be lovely to win Miss England but I'm just looking forward to the experience of being in the final."

"It has really boosted my confidence."

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Missing woman search widens



Amanda Hawkins, who is missing after last being seen at the supported accommodation where she lives

POLICE have widened their search for a woman who went missing from her home in the Black Country.

Amanda Hawkins was last seen at the supported accommodation where she lives in Sutton Road, Moxley, at around 9am on Friday, May 30. Officers have now widened their search to include Brownhills, Lichfield and Stafford.

The 44-year-old is white, 5ft 2ins tall, of large build, with shoulder length straight auburn hair and blue eyes. She speaks with a local accent and is believed to be wearing a green jacket.

Detective Constable Claire Walker said: "Those who support Amanda at her assisted living centre are very worried about her as is her mother who lives in Streetly."

"Since she was reported missing at the end of May we've been working hard to find her. We've alerted local bus companies, we've conducted house-to-house enquiries and officers have searched the Moxley neighbourhood. Staffordshire Police have also been alerted to her disappearance so that they can search Stafford. We've also asked them to search Lichfield as she has been found there before when missing and her mum says she loves to visit the cathedral."

Anyone who has seen Miss Hawkins should call 101.

Morphine fears call by coroner over death

A CORONER is writing to government health bosses over the dangers of inadvertently administering morphine – after an inquest heard that a pensioner suffered an overdose of the pain control drug at a care home.

Bridget Cahill died from a drug overdose which had been built up over a long period of time.

A post mortem found that the 77-year-old's body could not get rid of small amounts of the drug.

The widow, formerly of Waddington Avenue, Great Barr, had been a resident at Cedar Falls Care Home in Bescot Rd, Walsall, for around five weeks when she became ill last September.

Shortly before that, she had spent time in Rowley Regis Hospital after picking up an infection. On September 10, she was admitted to Walsall Manor Hospital after staff at Cedar Falls noticed she was unresponsive. She also had pinpoint pupils, an indication of too much morphine in her system.

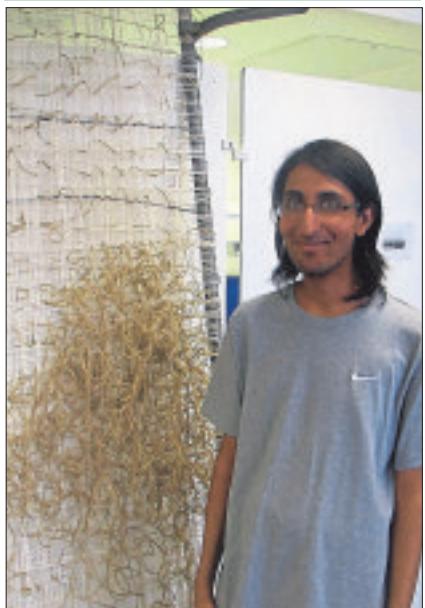
She was given an antidote but suffered a bout of vomiting. She was treated for the symptoms but deteriorated and died the following day, the inquest heard. Patholo-

gist Dr Iqbal Desi told the inquest at Walsall Manor Hospital that the concentration of morphine in her blood was not high. He said: "It was quite clear the overdose had been building up over a long period but she also had heart disease."

Mrs Tania Mason, care manager at Cedar Falls, said it appeared the medication had reacted to her body salts.

West Midlands coroner Robin Balmain concluded that death had been due to the effects of morphine correctly prescribed and administered but added: "It seems to me right that I should take the matter up with NICE. We need to look at this question of the dangers and why make some people have overdoses."

Firpal in the frame with art on display



Walsall College art student Firpal Jawanda, aged 19, with his artwork on display at Wisemore Campus

An exhibition has showcased the creative work of students studying art at Walsall College.

The Open Studio was a chance for students on the BTEC level three foundation diploma in art and design to show off their creations and talk to prospective students about the benefits of enrolling on the course.

Around 95 per cent of students have progressed to employment or higher education in the past three years following completion of the course.

Exhibitions were set up in various classrooms and corridors at the college's Wisemore Campus as students talked to visitors about their work.

Student Firpal Jawanda, aged 19, said: "The support and freedom that we have and the trust which is placed upon you to develop your own art is really great."

Golf scheme is on course to finish by end of year

THE first of around 50 new jobs being created with the opening of a new £3 million golf course has been advertised.

It comes as it emerged work on Essington Golf Course will be completed by the end of the year. The 80-acre nine-hole course is being created off Bognop Road in the village. Plans are still being drawn up to create a leisure centre and clubhouse as part of the new golf development.

by Catherine Dalton

Councillor David Clift, representative for Essington, said there would be 50 new jobs created with the opening of the course, a mixture of full and part time roles. And he said the first of these was already being sought as developers look for a greenkeeper.

Swimming

The rest will come in 2015 when the course is ready to open and the majority, said Councillor Clift, will go to residents living in Essington.

Councillor Clift said: "We have not known a proper figure for jobs but with plans which are on the drawing board for a leisure centre and swimming pool there, it looks like it will be around 50 jobs, full and part time.

"It will be good to see this golf course all up and running. It is hoped the work will be completed by the end of this year and then people will be able to start playing there from spring."

The hunt is currently on for a qualified and experienced greenkeeper to work full time at the course.

An open day is also being held at the course from 1pm to 3pm on July 5 to give residents the chance to see the progress being made there.

Work at Essington Golf Club started in 2008 but its completion date was pushed back due to the downturn in the building trade.

Some fairways, water hazards, bunkers and footpaths have already been installed at the new course.

A new access road is also part of the development.

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Youngsters at Livingston Academy's 1996 Christmas show



Debbie with Natalie Powers 20 years ago



From left, Abby Wall, Samantha Plant, Lauren Downing, about 19 years ago



Georgina with Saskia Lockey, who now works in musicals



From left, Georgina, Alison Truelove and Debbie Morgan



Founders Georgina and Debbie with students Cara Fraser, aged 17 from Willenhall, and Georgia Curtis, 17 from Walsall

Livingston ladies of dance mark 25 years

MEMORY LANE

Report by Adam Grinsell

A DANCE and drama academy which has produced performers who have appeared on stages across the world is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

The Livingston Academy, which teaches dance, music and drama, was set up by dance teachers Debbie Morgan and Georgina Rowley in 1988.

Established in Darlaston, the academy moved to its current home on Holmehead Road in Wednesbury in 1996, after increasing business led to a need for new premises.

Around 350 people, mainly youngsters but also some adults, are currently on the books at the academy, but the number of people who have been through the doors since it was set up cannot be estimated.

Former students have performed around the world – with one former pupil currently appearing in Cats in London's West End.

Nottingham

Others have gone on to teach dance and drama or set up their own academies.

Debbie said: "We teach ballet, tap, modern, jazz, all the theatre subjects – singing, speech, drama and all-round performance. The majority of people who come here are local to the area, but we have students from quite far away as well – we've had girls from as far as Nottingham come to us, so some really do travel."

The 25th anniversary was actually last year, when the students began rehearsing for a new show *Musical Memories*.

The show was put on at the Prince of Wales Theatre in Cannock last month, with a host of invited guests including former students.

Debbie added: "That's been the main celebratory thing really, we always do dance competitions, and we held a dance festival at Christmas, but the show in April rounded it off."

"Our aim when we started out was always to have everything that children need under one roof, everything they need to do the theatre arts, and we have achieved that."

If anyone would like to inquire about the Academy, call Debbie on 07976 880608, or see www.livingston-academy.co.uk

Dancer Elliss Morgan in a Livingston Academy show, called *Don't Stop Believing*, in 2012 at Cannock's Prince of Wales

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Tom fired up for poster challenge



Walsall College student Tom Moore, aged 16, seen in a fire engine with the poster which he designed

A BUDDING graphic designer has won a competition to design the posters and tickets for a charity ball being run by the emergency services.

Tom Moore, aged 16, who is studying graphic design at Walsall College, has seen his eye-catching image chosen to head up the campaign to raise funds for Birmingham Children's Hospital during a charity ball in August.

The evening of entertainment is being organised by two firefighters from West Midlands Police with support from West Midlands Police and West Midlands Ambulance Service.

Around 160 tickets as well as dozens of posters have now been printed with Tom's design displayed and they are being distributed across the Birmingham and Black Country area.

He said: "I came up with the design in about a day but then the editing took a good couple of weeks. I wanted to create something which was abstract and interesting."

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"Over the last five years Alan

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01902 495544

£400,000 project for new ticket machines

EIGHT ticket machines are being installed at railway stations as part of a £400,000 project.

The machines have recently been installed by London Midland and Centro at Four Oaks, Redditch, Bournville, Northfield, Selly Oak, Bloxwich and Rugeley Town stations.

London Midland and Centro are spending more than £400,000 on ticket machines this year with five more due to go in at Rowley Regis, Bloxwich North, Stourbridge Junction, Landywood and Alvechurch.

That will see ticket buying facilities at every station on the Birmingham - Walsall - Rugeley line and Cross City line. It comes as a ticket machine near the University of Birmingham's campus in Edgbaston issued more than 3,000 tickets since March.

Centro's lead member for rail and Metro, Councillor Roger Horton, said: "This is the only machine in the West Midlands that is not located at a rail station. Installing it on the campus is proving a smart move."

London Midland's customer service manager James Elliot said: "We're committed to improving the overall journey experience for our passengers and making it easier to buy a ticket is part of that process."

"Through effective partnership working with Centro and the University of Birmingham we have delivered an innovative solution which makes travelling by train even easier."

Campaigners' joy after reprieve on pub scheme

By Deborah Hardiman

CAMPAGNERS fighting to save a closure-threatened Walsall pub from becoming shops have won a reprieve after the developer withdrew from an appeal hearing.

Residents had been fighting plans by owner Red Star Estates Limited to turn The Magic Lantern in Beechdale, into a convenience store and four shop units.

The company had planning permission to redevelop the site, despite hundreds of objections and an action group's bid to keep it for the community.

A successful application was made to Walsall Council to get the Cavendish Road pub recognised as an asset of community value, giving residents the chance to club together and buy the building should it come up for sale.

The developer then lodged an appeal against the move at Walsall County Court that was due to be heard on May 29.

Birchills and Leamore representative Councillor Tina Jukes said: "There is no appeal, they pulled out the morning it was due to be heard at court so the Lantern at present stays as a pub which is fabulous for the community of Beechdale. We are over the moon."

"It's what the community and the residents want. The pub is still open for business and people are holding events there."

The owner was taking Walsall Council to a tribunal over the decision to create a community asset management.

"Their objection was that because the building has been given this new status they can't now create the retail space."

She said the failure of the hearing to go ahead means that more entertainment nights can be planned for the venue situated at the junction with Bloxwich Lane and Bentley Lane.

The next event will be a ska disco. A Facebook page has also been set up to promote the campaign.

Red Star Estates Limited had hoped to start the building work earlier this year and said it had tenants already lined up for the scheme that would create 16 jobs if it went ahead.



Councillor Tina Jukes, left, with some of the community group set up to help save the pub in Beechdale

A share of £260,000 available

GROUPS involved in community projects in Walsall can get a share of £260,000 from a new funding pot.

Walsall Housing Group wants groups across the borough to apply for Community First funding, a Government scheme focused on helping disadvantaged communities address local priorities.

Community First funding is available to anyone who is involved in, or interested in being involved in, community projects in Bentley, Darlaston, Birchills, Leamore, Blakenall, Bloxwich, Palfrey, Pleck, St Matthews and Willenhall.

Groups can bid for grants of up to £2,500 for projects that would benefit the community. Projects can be anything from helping to keep the community safe to improving health. Call Mandie Bains on 01922 426727 or email mandeep.bains@whgrp.co.uk.

Brownies to celebrate

NEARLY 1,500 Brownies from the Black Country, are expected to mark the organisation's centenary at a party at the end of the month.

Hundreds of thousands of Girlguiding members from all over the UK are taking part in events to mark the 100th anniversary this year.

West Mercia Brownies, which is made up of girls aged between seven and 10 from the region will mark the Big Brownie Birthday at Weston Park in Staffordshire on June 28.

They will take part in activities including circus skills, cheer leading, science experiments and adventure challenges.

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Denplan



Oh yummy, mummy can bag £500 spree

COMPETITION

THERE is a chance to win a £500 family shopping spree with Mummy Mornings at Merry Hill shopping centre at Brierley Hill.

The popular Mummy Mornings sessions are set for a monster takeover on Tuesday June 24 with the biggest bash yet!

Thought to be the largest active network of parents in the Midlands, Mummy Mornings are a firm favourite with local families and a key event in Merry Hill's weekly calendar.

Taking place every Tuesday from 10am in Eat Central, for six years they've seen families flock to the centre for a variety of free weekly-themed activities and games to entertain their little ones.

Vibrant

It's now evolved to become a vibrant community in its own right, bringing together parents from across the region for friendship, support, and fun every week.

The biggest ever Mummy Morning - dubbed Monster Mummy Morning - will feature a whole host of activities and goodies for kids and grown-ups alike.

Children's favourite Peppa Pig, fresh from Channel 5's Milkshake service will be making a special appearance during the morning.

There will also be activities and entertainments jam-packed with freebies, alongside music, balloon models, crafts, games and on top of all that there will be free lunch offers for those who attend.

Creative kids can try their hands at making bracelets for Help Harry Help Others - the charity Merry Hill continues to support throughout 2014



Alex Phillips, Ellie-Jean Phillips, Keeley Musgrove and Aaron Musgrove

**intu
Merry Hill**

HOW TO ENTER

Answer the following question:
When are Mummy Mornings?
A. Every Monday
B. Every Tuesday
C. Every Thursday
Send answers on a postcard to
Mummy Mornings Competition,
Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen
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Closing date: June 19. Usual rules.

Registered charity number 1089464
and Scotland SC041666



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CHOICE

Wayne Rooney

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00 Saturday Kitchen Live.** **10.30 Trooping the Colour.** **1.00 BBC News: Weather.** **1.15 Tennis from Queen's.** The AEGON Championships. Sue Barker introduces coverage of the semi-finals of the Wimbledon warm-up event, held at the Queen's Club in London. Coverage continues on BBC2. **4.00 Match of the Day Live.** **4.30 Match of the Day Live.** Colombia v Greece (Kick-off 5.00pm). Coverage of the opening World Cup match for both teams.

7.10 BBC News: Weather. **7.30 Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman challenge more famous faces to plumb the depths of their general knowledge. The teams are Coronation Street star Jennie McAlpine (Fiz) and radio DJ Justin Moorhouse, impressionists Alastair McGowan and Kate Robbins, Kate's comedian brother Ted Robbins and fellow funnyman Mark Little, and husband-and-wife TV presenters Trey Farley and Kay Hill. (R)

8.20 The National Lottery: It's In to Win It. Dale Winton hosts the quiz in which five contestants pit their wits to scoop a big cash prize. Only those in the winners' row will have a chance of taking home the loot, so they will need to get all the answers right – as well as a little bit of luck on their side. Gaby Roslin presents the Lotto and Thunderball draws. Last in the series.

9.10 Casualty. A man with dementia is brought in after suffering a bump to the head, and after giving the staff the runaround he finally settles down thanks to Connie. But as his condition worsens, can she save him? Jeff and Tamzin are called out to a party where the boiler has exploded, putting intense pressure on an already busy department as an influx of revellers turn in the ED. Ethan and Rita suspect one of the partygoers of being bulimic, while a frustrated father is forced to leave without his ill son being seen.

10.00 BBC News: Weather; National Lottery Update.

10.20 Match of the Day Live. Italy v Italy (Kick-off 11.00pm). Coverage as Roy Hodgson's men get their World Cup Group D campaign under way at the Arena Amazonia in Manaus, Brazil. Meanwhile, Italy also earned six victories and four draws from their qualifiers.

1.30 Weatherview. **1.35 BBC News.**

BBC2

6.00 MOTD Kickabout. **8.30 Brazil's Soccer Cities.** **8.55 World Cup Films.** **10.30 Match of the Day: FIFA World Cup Highlights.** **11.15 Wimbledon Classics.** **1.15 Talking Pictures.** **(R) 2.00 Film:** Citizen Kane. (1941) Oscar-winning drama, starring Orson Welles. **4.00 Tennis from Queen's.** The AEGON Championships semi-finals.

5.30 Flog It! (R)

6.30 Trooping the Colour Highlights. The key moments from the military parade when the Colour was trooped by Nijmegen Company, Grenadier Guards, at Horse Guards Parade in Whitehall, central London, to mark the Queen's official birthday.

8.00 Yes, Prime Minister. Jim feels local government isn't really representative, so is eager to hear more about proposals to reform the system. Sir Humphrey fears this would lead to the civil service losing its power and turns to an unlikely ally to help persuade the prime minister to think again. Political comedy first broadcast in 1988, starring Paul Eddington and Nigel Hawthorne. (R)

8.30 I Love 1988. The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles look back over the year the high-kicking heroes in a half-shell took the world by storm, Bill and Ted set off on an Excellent Adventure and Debbie Gibson went head to head with Tiffany for pop supremacy. This Morning began dominating daytime television, Bros and Neighbours star Kylie Minogue hit the charts, and the emergence of acid house changed the clubbing scene.

9.55 Red Dwarf. Red Dwarf is on a collision course with five black holes and Holly recommends that the crew members abandon ship and regroup after the danger is over. Cat and Kryten take off in Blue Midget, while Lister and Rimmer make their escape in Starbug, but are marooned when it is hit by a meteor and crash lands on an icy planet. Comedy first aired in 1989, starring Chris Barrie and Craig Charles. (R)

10.25 TOP2: 80s Special. Memorable Top of the Pops performances from the 1980s, including Adam and the Ants, Soft Cell, Madness, Culture Club, Pet Shop Boys, Wham!, Bros, Black Box and Lisa Stansfield. (R)

11.55 Film: Body Heat. (1981) Thriller, starring William Hurt.

1.45 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** **6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** **6.50 Cannimals.** **(R) 7.00 Cannimals.** **(R) 7.05 Sooey.** **(R) 7.20 Digimon Fusion.** **(R) 7.45 Horrid Henry.** **8.00 Adventure Time.** **8.20 Tennis from Queen's.** The AEGON Championships semi-finals.

8.30 Weekend. **9.25 The Hungry Sailors.** **(R) 10.20 Murder, She Wrote.** **(R) 11.15 ITV News: Weather.** **11.30 Storage Hoarders.** **(R) 12.30 All Star Mr & Mrs.** **(R) 1.30 Fool Britannia.** **(R) 2.00 Film:** Babe: Pig in the City. (1998) **3.40 Gall & Me:** 40 Years on Coronation Street. **(R) 4.10 All Star Family Fortunes.** **(R) 5.00 Tipping Point.** (R)

6.05 Regional Programme: Weather.

6.15 ITV News: Weather.

6.30 You've Been Framed! Top 100 Televiser. Hall narrates a countdown of 100 talent-themed clips sent in by viewers. (R)

7.30 FIFA World Cup Live 2014. Uruguay v Costa Rica (Kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the opening Group D match for both nations, which takes place at the Estadio Castelao in Fortaleza, Brazil. While England will be busy preparing for their opening fixture later tonight, their fans will have one eye on this encounter given that it features the other two teams in their group. Uruguay have been among the top 10 nations in the FIFA rankings for some time now, and while they begin as favourites to succeed here, they will need to perform better than they did in the qualifying campaign. Having finished fifth in the CONMEBOL group just behind Ecuador, they secured their place in the tournament via a two-legged inter-confederation play-off against Jordan, and avoided what would have been an embarrassing upset. Costa Rica are one of four nations to have qualified from the CONCACAF region, joining the USA, Honduras and Mexico, and this will be their fourth appearance at a World Cup finals. In eight previous fixtures against Uruguay they have never recorded a victory, losing six times and drawing twice, with the most recent clash ending in a 1-1 draw in 2009.

10.15 ITV News: Weather.

10.30 Road Rage Britain: Caught on Camera. (R)

11.30 Film: Play Misty for Me. (1971) Psychological thriller, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood.

1.30 FIFA World Cup Live 2014. **4.15 ITV Nightscreen.**

CHANNEL 4

6.30 Trans World Sport. **7.30 FIM Superbike World Championship.** **8.00 The Morning Line.** **9.00 Weekend Kitchen.** **10.00 Frasier.** **(R) 10.30 Frasier.** **(R) 10.55 The Big Bang Theory.** **(R) 11.25 The Big Bang Theory.** **(R) 11.50 The Simpsons.** **(R) 12.20 The Simpsons.** **(R) 12.45 The Tomorrow People.** **1.40 Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from York, Sandown Park and Musselburgh. **4.10 Come Dine with Me.** **(R) 4.40 Come Dine with Me.** **(R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me.** **(R) 5.40 Come Dine with Me.** (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. Sue Hood hosts the final night in east Hampshire, hoping to impress her guests with a Caribbean-themed dinner party, before the winner of the £1,000 prize is announced. (R)

6.40 Channel 4 News.

7.05 The Restoration Man. George Clarke revisits Keith and Sheena Montague a year after they battled extreme weather conditions to convert a listed Thomas Telford-designed church on the Outer Hebridean island of Berneray into a holiday home and artist's studio. The couple also had to overcome the challenge of integrating with the local community while trying to manage the build from their home in Newcastle. George finds out what life is like in their new home and whether they have been successful in winning a prestigious architecture award. (R)

8.00 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud meets Paul and Penny Denby, who are demolishing their mock-Georgian home on an exclusive south London estate to replace it with a contemporary mansion. The couple have little building experience and struggle with the dozens of design decisions they must make, and find themselves £250,000 short of the amount needed to finish the property. (R)

9.00 Film: Forrest Gump. (1994) A simple soul bumbles his way through a series of bizarre adventures, becoming an American football star, Vietnam veteran, table tennis champion and millionaire businessman – but with the love of his life continues to elude him. Robert Zemeckis's Oscar-winning comedy drama, starring Tom Hanks, Sally Field, Robin Wright and Gary Sinise.

11.45 Film: The Beach. (2000) Danny Boyle's drama, with Leonardo DiCaprio and Tilda Swinton. **1.55 Hollyoaks.** (R) **4.00 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00 Chinese Food in Minutes.** **(R) 10.15 Meerkat Manor.** (R)

10.45 The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies. **(R) 11.45 Big Brother: Eviction.** (R) **11.10 Film: Ghostbusters.** (1984) Supernatural comedy, starring Bill Murray. **3.15 Film:** The Green Berets. (1968) Vietnam War adventure, starring John Wayne.

6.00 Hercules the Human Bear. The story of Andy and Maggie Bear's relationship with a grizzly bear they bought as a cub from a zoo in Aviemore, the Highlands, initially to fulfil Andy's need for a unique wrestling partner, and which went on to become a star of TV and films. The documentary examines the bond that the couple and Hercules forged during their 25 years together, including the time the bear was missing for 24 days in the Outer Hebrides after escaping while filming an advertisement, terrifying the locals and fascinating the public. (R)

7.00 Cricket on 5. England v Sri Lanka. Mark Nicholas presents action from the third day of the First Test in the two-match series, which takes place at Lord's. The tourists are still searching for their first-ever victory in this form of the game at the home of cricket, with their last three visits in 2002, 2006 and 2011 all ending in draws, but they will take great heart from their 3-2 victory in the one-day series, which saw them win the deciding encounter in some controversy surrounding the wicket of Jos Buttler.

8.00 5 News Weekend.

8.05 The Girl with 7 Mums. Documentary exploring the domestic life of 10-year-old Ellie Sharp, whose father took seven wives and is head of Britain's only openly polygamous family. (R)

9.00 Film: Autopsy: Whitney Houston's Last Hours. Dr Richard Shepherd investigates the death of the singer in February 2012, with the post-mortem revealing the damage caused by years of drug and alcohol abuse. (R)

10.00 Big Brother: Power Trip. Highlights of another 24 hours in the Big Brother house, including coverage of the first eviction as seen from the point of view of the contestants.

11.00 Big Brother's Bit on the Psych.

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10 Gibraltar:** Britain in the Sun. **(R) 4.00 House Doctor.** (R) **4.25 Make It Big.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Doctor Who: The Ultimate Guide **7.15 Doctor Who: 8.00 Top Gear 9.00 Russell Howard's Good News 10.00 Edinburgh Comedy Fest Live 2012 11.00 Family Guy 12.50 American Dad! 1.35 The World Cup's 50 Greatest Moments**

3.30 Badults 4.00 Close

BBC Four

7.00 Swarm: Nature's Incredible Invasions 8.00 The Story of Science – Power, Proof and Passion 9.00 Wallander 10.30 Natural World 11.30 The Comet's Tale 12.30 The Sky at Night

1.00 Tails You Win: The Science of Chance 2.00 Swarm: Nature's Incredible Invasions 3.00 The Story of Science – Power, Proof and Passion 4.00 Close

ITV2

11.05 Take Me Out 12.15 I Wanna Marry "Harry" 1.15 Funniest Ever You've Been Framed 2.20 You've Been Framed and Famous 3.20 You've Been Framed **3.55 Britain's Got More Talent Best & Worst: Stephen's Heroes 5.00 Britain's Got More Talent Best & Worst: Harriet 6.00 Britain's Got More Talent Best & Worst: Surprise Stars 7.05 Film: Year One (2009) 9.00 Film: The Holiday (2006)**

11.45 Film: Red Dragon (2002) **2.05 Viral rap 2.45 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2 Nightshopping**

ITV3

12.50 Pollyanna 2.55 Lewis 4.55 Agatha Christie's Marple 7.00 Rosemary & Thyme 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 Foyle's War 11.00 Bomb Girls 12.00 A Touch of Frost

2.00 ITV3 Nightshoppers 2.30 Teleshopping

ITV4

11.40 Film: Dunkirk (1958) 2.25 British Touring Car Championship Highlights **4.00 Film: Dragnet (1987) 6.00 Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) 7.00 Film: The Hornblower (1960)**

8.00 Film: Forrest Gump (1994) 9.00 Film: Schindler's List (1993) 1.45 Nitro Circus 3.00 Teleshopping 3.30 The Store 5.00 Teleshopping

E4

2.00 Made in Chelsea 3.05 The Big Bang Theory 5.00 RuPaul's Drag Race 6.00 How I Met Your Mother 7.00 The Big Bang Theory 8.30 How I Met Your Mother 9.00 Film: He's Just Not That Into You (2009) 11.40 The Big Bang Theory 12.10 RuPaul's Drag Race: Total Stunts 1.15 How I Met Your Mother 2.15 2.12 Girls 3.00 The Cleveland Show 4.15 Glee

Film4

11.00 Big Business (1988) 1.00 The Rocker (2008) 2.55 Brewster's Millions (1985) 4.55 Edward Scissorhands (1990) 7.00 The Italian Job (1969) 9.00 Predator (1987) 11.05 Predator 2 (1990) 1.15 Sightseers (2012) 3.15 Close

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CHOICE

Charlie Hamilton James

I Bought a Rainforest (BBC2, 8pm)

Nine months in and Charlie Hamilton James's project has hit rock bottom, so he decides to spend time with one of his neighbours – a Wacheperian shaman who treats sick people with traditional plants and hallucinogenic medicines. He then heads across the border to Brazil to meet a cattle rancher planning to burn down a huge chunk of virgin forest to increase the size of his farm, giving Charlie a clue as to how to make his scheme work. Back on his land, Charlie makes squatter Elias an offer and the pair embark on a new joint venture.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** Football Focus: World Cup Special. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Regional Programme. **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. **(R)** **3.00** Super Giant Animals. **(R)** **4.00** Escape to the Country. **(R)** **5.00** Points of View. **5.15** Lifeline. **5.25** Songs of Praise.

6.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.30 Countryfile. The team is in Port Talbot, South Wales, where Siân Lloyd switches on the largest electric generating wind farm in Europe after its refurbishment. Ellie Harrison goes in pursuit of an unusual animal in Margam Park. Also, Tom Heap looks at predictions that more than 40 British beaches will next year be labelled as unsuitable for bathing because of new European regulations and Adam Henson meets the old boys of a little-known pre-war farm training scheme, including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.30 Match of the Day Live. France v Honduras (Kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the opening World Cup Group E match for both sides, which takes place at the Estadio Beira-Rio, Porto Alegre, Brazil. France were the envy of many nations when they were handed arguably the easiest group from which to progress, having only narrowly qualified for the tournament following their play-off victory over Ukraine, which saw them overturn a 2-0 first-leg deficit to reach their fifth successive finals. With Switzerland and Ecuador the other sides involved, France will expect their star-studded squad to finish top and reach the last 16, where they may also be dealt a favourable draw against a team from Group F. Presented by Gary Lineker, with commentary by Jonathan Pearce and Martin Keown.

10.05 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day Live. Argentina v Bosnia-Herzegovina (Kick-off 11.00pm). The opening World Cup Group F match for both sides, which takes place at the Estadio do Maracana in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

1.10 Weatherview. **1.15 BBC News.**

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.05** Match of the Day: FIFA World Cup Replay. **7.50** World Cup Film. **9.30** Match of the Day: FIFA World Cup Highlights. **10.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **12.00** Two Greedy Italians. **(R)** **1.00** Canoe Slalom: World Cup London. **2.00** Tennis from Queen's. The AEGON Championships final. **5.30** Tropic of Cancer.

6.30 Ice Age Giants. Alice Roberts explains what the remains of mammals reveal about how they fared in cold climates. In Transylvanian caves, she discovers evidence of a conflict between a cave bear and a lion, both of which became victims of a deep freeze that swept across Europe, while in Siberia she finds that the well-preserved remains of a female woolly rhinoceros demonstrate it was perfectly evolved to face the bitter conditions in Yakutsk – the coldest city on Earth. Alice also travels to a Jersey cave, where archaeological findings shed light on how Ice Age human beings and Neanderthals fashioned stone tools to hunt mammoths. **(R)**

7.30 Sea City. The work of the people who keep the Port of Southampton running but are often hidden from view, including a bunkering tanker skipper who provides fuel for the ships.

8.00 I Bought a Rainforest. Charlie Hamilton James receives inspiration on how to make his project work after visiting a Brazilian cattle rancher and embarks on a joint venture with Elias. Last in the series.

9.00 Wildfires 2014: Inside the Inferno. Part two of two. Simon Reeve joins an aerial operation to waterbomb a wildfire and Kate Humble experiences what it is like inside a firefighting truck as the flames approach.

10.00 Mock the Week. The topical comedy quiz show returns, with Ed Byrne, Milton Jones, Romesh Ranganathan and Katherine Ryan joining Hugh Dennis, Andy Parsons and host Dara Ó Briain. **(R)**

10.30 QI XL. Iy Suttie, Tim Minchin and Bill Bailey join regular panelist Alan Davies as host Stephen Fry asks a range of unusual questions on the topic of music. **(R)**

11.15 Film: Then She Found Me. **(2007)** Comedy drama.

12.50 Sign Zone: Countryfile. **(R)** **1.50** Holby City. **(R)** **2.50** Match of the Day: FIFA World Cup Replay. **4.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. **(R)** **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. **(R)** **6.50** Cannimals. **(R)** **7.05** Soozy. **(R)** **7.20** Digimon Fusion. **(R)** **7.45** Horrid Henry. **(R)** **8.00** Bedtime Stories. **(R)** **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** May the Best House Win. **(R)** **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. **(R)** **11.20** ITV News: Weather. **11.30** Love Your Garden. **(R)** **12.30** Long Lost Family. **(R)** **1.30** Nature's Newborns. **(R)** **2.00** Film: Columbo: It's All in the Game. **(1993)** Detective drama, starring Peter Falk and Faye Dunaway.

4.00 FIFA World Cup Live 2014. Switzerland v Ecuador (Kick-off 5.00pm).

7.15 Regional Programme: Weather.

7.20 The Cube – Celebrity Special. Phillip Schofield invites world champion hurdler Dai Greene and former Olympian javelin thrower Fatima Whitbread to take on a series of fiendishly difficult challenges inside The Cube. Each given nine lives at the start, they face up to seven tasks, ranging from agility tests to skill trials, and the more they complete, the greater their chances of winning £250,000 for charity. **(R)**

8.30 The Suspicions of Mr Whicher: The Murder in Angel Lane. Another chance to see the second instalment of the crime drama starring Paddy Considine as the pioneering 19th-century inspector. Having left the Metropolitan Police under a cloud, Whicher's days as a detective are behind him.

However, when he saves a respectable country lady from a violent robbery in a dangerous part of London, she hires him to investigate the savage murder of her 16-year-old niece. The investigation pits Whicher against wealthy and powerful figures, as well as his former colleagues in the Met, and leads to a psychiatric institution where he must confront his own demons. Co-starring Olivia Colman, Shaun Dingwall and Mark Bazely. **(R)**

10.30 ITV News: Weather.

10.45 Film: Gosford Park. **(2001)** A shooting party at a country estate ends in murder, all under the watchful eye of the servants. Robert Altman's period drama, with Maggie Smith.

1.15 The Store. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **4.15** May the Best House Win. **(R)**

CHANNEL 4

6.40 Vibram Tarawera Ultramarathon. **7.10** VW Racing Cup. **7.35** How I Met Your Mother. **(R)** **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. **(R)** **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. **(R)** **9.30** Secret Eaters. **(R)** **1.30** The Big Bang Theory. **(R)** **2.00** The Big Bang Theory. **(R)** **2.30** The Big Bang Theory. **(R)** **3.00** The Simpsons. **(R)** **3.30** Film: The First Wives Club. **(1996)** **5.35** Deal or No Deal.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Four Rooms. Gordon Watson, Celia Imrie, Alex Proud and David Semple get into their pockets for a pair of Muhammad Ali's boxing boots, antique big-cat taxidermy, provocative sculptures and original artworks from hit horror films. Meeting each potential buyer in a separate room, the sellers must judge when to part with their valuable items and when to reject an offer. Presented by Anita Rani.

8.00 Born in the Wild. Mark Evans and Joy Reidenberg visit Australia to uncover the reproductive secrets of marsupials. The kangaroo thrives in one of the driest environments on Earth – the Outback – thanks to its extreme baby-making survival strategy. At a remote research station, Mark uses night-imaging cameras to observe wild males tracking down fertile mates, while Joy uses ultrasound to monitor the progress of a female's pregnancy. Plus, how koalas have mastered gravity-defying intercourse, and the critically endangered rock wallabies that are being given foster mothers.

9.00 Fargo. Lester has an unexpected encounter with Malvo changes course and a new investigation leads Molly down a familiar path. The penultimate episode of the American drama inspired by the Coen brothers' much-loved film, starring Billy Bob Thornton, Martin Freeman, Colin Hanks and Allison Tolman.

10.05 The Virgin Killer. On May 23, British-born Elliot Rodger murdered six students and injured 13 in Santa Barbara, California. This documentary examines the events of that day and those leading up to it.

11.10 Film: The Happening. **(2008)** Horror, starring Mark Wahlberg.

12.50 Film: The Escapist. **(2008)** **2.35** Utopia. **(R)** **3.35** The Birthday. **(R)**

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Raray the Racing Car. **(R)** **6.15** Abby's Flying Fairy School. **(R)** **6.25** Bubble Guppies. **(R)** **6.35** The Mr Men Show. **(R)** **6.50** Chloe's Closet. **7.05** Roobards and Custard Too. **(R)** **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. **(R)** **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. **(R)** **7.35** City of Friends. **(R)** **7.55** Little Princess. **(R)** **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Man and His Best Friend Corky. **(R)** **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. **(R)** **8.40** Rupert Bear. **(R)** **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. **(R)** **9.15** Jelly Jamm. **(R)** **9.30** LazyTown. **(R)** **10.00** Power Rangers Super Samurai. **(R)** **10.35** Power Rangers Megaforce. **(R)** **11.10** Chinese Food in Minutes. **(R)** **11.15** The Nightmare Next Door. **(R)** **12.15** Big Brother. **Power Trip.** **(R)** **1.10** Film: Mannequin. **(1987)** Fantasy comedy, starring Andrew McCarthy.

2.55 Film: Ni'ms Island. **(2008)** Comedy adventure, starring Judie Foster. **4.45** Film: Hitch. **(2005)** Romantic comedy, starring Will Smith and Eva Mendes.

7.00 Cricket on 5. England v Sri Lanka. Mark Nicholas presents action from the fourth day of the First Test in the two-match series, which takes place at Lord's. Sri Lanka last visited these shores for a two-match Test series in 2011, and both matches ended in draws, and while England are going through a transitional period under head coach Peter Moores they will be expected to improve on that given they are still ranked third in the ICC Test rankings, while the visitors are down in seventh. With commentary by Michael Vaughan, Geoffrey Boycott and Simon Hughes.

8.00 Illegal Immigrant & Proud. Documentary following people who have settled in the UK illegally and who have managed to live their lives largely under the radar of the authorities. **(R)**

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Big Brother: Power Trip. Daily round-up of highlights, featuring the latest tasks, games, arguments, laughs, diary room visits and bedroom chit-chat. Narrated by Marcus Bentley.

10.00 Film: The Vow. **(2012)** Première. A woman wakes up after a car crash with no memory of her husband, who tries to get her to fall in love with him. Romantic drama, with Rachel McAdams and Channing Tatum.

12.05 Hercules the Human Bear. **(R)** **1.00 SuperCasino.** **3.10** Classic Car Rescue. **(R)** **4.00** House Doctor. **(R)**

DIGITAL**BBC Three**

7.00 World's Craziest Fools. **7.30** Film: Madagascar. **(2005)** **8.50** Great TV Mistakes. **9.00** Comedy Fest Live 2013. **10.00** Backchat with Jack Whittle and Helen. **10.45** Family Guy. **11.30** America's Good News. **12.45** Backchat with Jack Whittle and His Dad. **1.30** Barely Legal Drivers. **2.30** Street Kid. **World Cup 3.25** Russell Howard's Good News. **4.00** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Timewatch: Captain Cook – The Man Behind the Legend. **8.00** Film: Scott of the Antarctic. **(1948)** **9.45** Icebound: The Greatest Dog Story Ever Told. **10.45** Timeshift: Of Ice and Men. **11.45** Killing Me Softly. **12.45** Star Trek. **1.45** Singin' Singin' Singers at the BBC. **1.45** Timewatch: Captain Cook – The Man Behind the Legend. **2.45** Icebound: The Greatest Dog Story Ever Told. **3.45** Close Close

ITV2

3.10 You've Been Framed! **3.40** Film: Arthur and the Great Adventure. **(2009)** **5.55** Film: Rumor Has It. **(2005)** **7.50** Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor. **(2008)** **10.00** Viral Tap. **10.45** TV OD 11.20: Film: Couples Retreat. **(2009)** **1.35** Viral Tap 2.10. **2.00** Teleshopping

ITV3

11.40 Agatha Christie's Marple. **1.00** Lewis. **5.55** Midsomer Murders. **8.00** Film: Mamma Mia! **(2008)** **9.45** Icebound: The Greatest Dog Story Ever Told. **10.45** Lewis. **12.15** Film: Out of Africa. **(1985)** **3.05** Judge Judy. **3.25** ITV3 Nighthawk. **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4

2.40 Greatest World Cup Goals. **3.45** Film: The Appaloosa. **(1966)** **5.50** Film: Rooster Coburn. **(1975)** **8.00** Storage Wars. **9.00** Film: National Lampoon's Vacation. **(1983)** **11.05** Film: The Parole Officer. **(2001)** **12.55** Best of Brazil. **1.55** Richard Burton's Beer and Pizza Club. **2.35** Tommy Cooper. **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

3.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. **4.00** The Big Bang Theory. **6.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine. **7.00** The Mindy Project. **7.30** New Girl. **8.00** Film: The Death and Life of Charlie St Cloud. **(2010)** **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. **10.30** Ruude Tube: Total Stunts. **11.30** How I Met Your Mother. **12.30** Rules of Engagement. **1.30** The Ricky Gervais Show. **2.55** The Cleveland Show. **3.20** Holyolyoaks

Film4

1.00 Coraline. **(2009)** **3.00** The Princess Diaries. **(2001)** **5.15** Dragonball Evolution. **(2009)** **6.55** Star Trek III: The Search for Spock. **(1984)** **9.00** Transporter 3. **(2008)** **11.00** Trading Places. **(1983)**

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Film Choices

MONDAY
The Grudge 2, ITV, 10.35pm

After barely surviving a fire that burned a cursed Tokyo house to the ground, Karen Davis is recovering in hospital. Karen's sister Aubrey travels to Japan to bring her home, but her investigation into the suspicious events leading up to her sibling's injuries sets Aubrey on a frantic mission to prevent menacing supernatural beings from reaching the US. Horror sequel, with Amber Tamblyn and Sarah Michelle Gellar. (2006)

TUESDAY
Rambo: First Blood Part II, ITV, 10.35pm

Incarcerated Special Forces veteran John Rambo is offered the chance for freedom by former commander Colonel Trautman if he takes up the offer to return to the jungles of Vietnam on a life-or-death mission to rescue American POWs. During the course of the operation, he develops strong feelings for his guide, a female freedom fighter – but tragedy strikes, leaving him more determined than ever to exact a bloody and explosive revenge. Action adventure sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone. (1985)

WEDNESDAY
The Hindenburg, Channel 4, 2.20am

The famous German zeppelin is prepared for its fateful transatlantic voyage in 1937, only for the Nazi government to receive word that a plot is afoot to destroy the craft. A security agent is placed on board the airship to uncover and prevent any attempts at sabotage, but finds himself surrounded by a multitude of possible suspects among the passengers. Disaster movie, with George C Scott and Anne Bancroft. (1975)



The Grudge 2, Monday, ITV, 10.35pm

THURSDAY
Terminator 2: Judgment Day, Channel 4, 10pm

A reprogrammed killing machine is sent back in time to the 20th century to protect John Connor, a teenage boy whose destiny is to save the human race. After breaking John's mother out of a mental institution, the pair set out to avert a future nuclear war – pursued by an advanced prototype terminator with shape-changing powers. Sci-fi action adventure sequel, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Linda Hamilton. (1991)

FRIDAY
Buster, BBC2, 11.05pm

Fact-based crime drama about the life of Buster Edwards, a member of the gang responsible for the Great Train Robbery. Going on the run after the notorious heist, he flees to Mexico with his family. However, his homesick wife struggles to adapt to their new life, leaving the outlaw with a difficult choice. Starring Phil Collins and Julie Walters. (1988)

Pick of the Week

The Goodmans make a return to our screens

It's been 18 months since we last caught up with TV's favourite Jewish family, the Goodmans – and that's an age in TV terms.

We thought that was it, they'd left our lives forever. But thankfully that's not the case, because here they are, back for a new run of the sitcom.

"I'm so excited to be making a new series of Friday Night Dinner with such a fantastic cast once again," says writer and producer Robert Popper. "I really could not be happier. Well I could, if say, I'd taught crows how to speak and they, in turn, taught me how to fly."

Nerys Evans, Deputy Head of Comedy, Channel 4, adds: "We're thrilled we're going to be spending more Friday evenings with the Goodmans – and not forgetting Jim and Wilson too. Robert's created such a brilliantly warm and funny world, and the cast are just sublime, we can't wait to join them for more Friday Night Dinners."

Although it's truly an ensemble piece, it's Tamsin Greig who

effortlessly manages to grab the spotlight – but then again, she is arguably the leading female light in British sitcom at the moment thanks to this show and the BBC Two hit Episodes.

"I think it's lovely," she says of this project. "The editing is beautiful, as it's written on the page, very fast, tightly shot, very funny and a credit to the people who put it together."

Here she plays Jackie, the matriarch who's very much at the head of the family, a fact that Greig discovered was true to life when she spent an evening with some Jewish friends.

"I went to a mate's house for Friday night dinner and there was a lot of food and the women were really loud," she says, laughing her eyes. And that's what I used find. I thought the women might be more retiring, but the women really do run the shindig and I thought that was brilliant."

"But Robert hasn't had to think up any of this. He should really say it was written by his dad!"

However, she does have one problem during filming – sharing the screen with her old Green Wing sparring partner Mark Heap.

A known 'corseper', Greig says it was "almost impossible" to film with Heap as Jim the neighbour. "I think there are some scenes where you can't cut to me at all because I'm just laughing out loud every time he moves," she recalls.

At the start of the new run, Jackie is thrilled – Adam seems to be having more luck with the ladies. In fact, at long last, he's bringing a lady (or 'female' as his dad would say) home to meet his parents and brother Jonny. However, as you may already have guessed, the evening doesn't go quite to plan.

"That's because the Goodmans are coming along with eight-year-old Katie who has a crush on Adam. So when she spots some incriminating photos on his phone, she spies the perfect opportunity to blackmail him into doing everything wants."

And barking like a dog while wearing make-up doesn't go down well with Emma...



Simon Bird stars in Friday Night Dinner, Friday, Channel 4, 10pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY
Tigers About the House
BBC2, 8pm

New series. Documentary following zookeeper Giles Clark as he hand-rears Sumatran tiger cubs Spot and Stripe, which were born at the Australia Zoo in Queensland and are one of the most critically endangered species on Earth. To help give them the best start and ensure their survival, Giles takes them home to live with his boisterous family and gives them round-the-clock care for the first four months of their lives. The film gives an intimate look into the crucial early development of the cubs as they struggle through their first crucial weeks, while Giles embarks upon the toughest parenting job of his life and tries to save the species from the brink of extinction in the wild. Andrew Lincoln narrates.

Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole
Channel 5, 9pm

It's been a hot topic for a while, and there's almost been as much coverage on this subject recently as there has been on the World Cup. Well okay, maybe not quite that much. Figures suggest that there are more people living off benefits now than at any time since the foundation of the welfare state. Some put this down to factors such as immigration, lack of jobs, and, controversially, laziness. But can we really be so judgemental until we understand the circumstances of those who rely on the state? This series aims to give us a look at the hidden world of such violence and follows three families' journeys as they struggle to get their head around their children's

TUESDAY
Horizon: Where Is Flight MH370?
BBC2, 9pm

The inside story of the search for Malaysia Airlines Flight MH 370, which vanished on March 8 while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. The film reveals how the Boeing 777 disappeared in a radar blind spot and what investigators believe happened to the aircraft in its last minutes, and hears from the British satellite engineers who tracked the plane's final hours. It also examines new technologies including black-box streaming and enhanced air-traffic surveillance that mean an airliner should never be lost without trace again.

WEDNESDAY
My Violent Child
Channel 5, 9pm

Domestic violence is still a big concern in the UK, and while it's true we'll never really know what goes on behind closed doors, some families are suffering an altogether different form of abuse; one that's so devastating that many refuse to even acknowledge its existence – child-on-parent violence. This one-off programme tells the shocking story of this kind of abuse, and reveals how helplines receive over 11,000 calls a year from adults being physically abused in their home. The documentary takes a look at the hidden world of such violence and follows three families' journeys as they struggle to get their head around their children's

behavioural issues – and cannot help but question what they could be doing differently in their parenting.

Episodes
BBC2, 10pm

Back when television phenomenon Friends ended after its 10-year run, its stars could have been forgiven for laying awake at night with worry about what they'd do next. For Matt LeBlanc, however, that worry would have been wasted energy. Okay, so spin-off series Joey probably didn't do as well as he'd have hoped, but it seems he's found his place in this brilliant comedy alongside some of our own very best comedy talent. In tonight's episode there's bad news as Pucks! is finally pulled from the schedule, and everyone reacts in different ways – with Sean in denial, Beverly is mentally packing her bags and Matt finds solace in the arms of a 19-year-old superfan.


THURSDAY
FIFA World Cup Live
2014
ITV, 7pm

Uruguay v England (Kick-off 8.00pm). All the action from the eagerly awaited Group D fixture at the Arena de Sao Paulo, as both sides play their second match of the tournament. While this may not officially be the

Group of Death, the draw in December did little to breathe life into England's campaign, as Roy Hodgson's men were handed this clash with the South Americans to follow their opener against Italy. While Uruguay struggled in qualifying and needed a play-off against Jordan to make it through, they will still be regarded as one of the favourites due to their outstanding strikeforce, which includes Edinson Cavani, Diego Forlan and Luis Suarez. The injury-hit latter of those three will no doubt attract the greatest attention ahead of this fixture, having proven a controversial character in his time at Liverpool, for whom he was in outstanding form last season. In fact, the striker was at the centre of one of the most memorable moments of the last World Cup, when his last-minute deliberate handball on the goal line against Ghana resulted in his dismissal, although the subsequent penalty miss by Asamoah Gyan saw the match go to a shootout, which Uruguay won to become the only South American representative in the semi-finals.

FRIDAY
Seven Wonders of Brazil
BBC2, 9pm

Brazilian Catholicism is a mixture of influences that has developed since the country was colonised by the Portuguese almost 500 years ago, combining song and dance, African and native beliefs and the faith of the southern Europeans who invaded. In this film, theologian Robert Beckford explores the incredible spiritual diversity of the South American country by examining seven things that embody the melting pot of Brazilian Christianity, from statue of Jesus Christ to the samba beat of the carnival.

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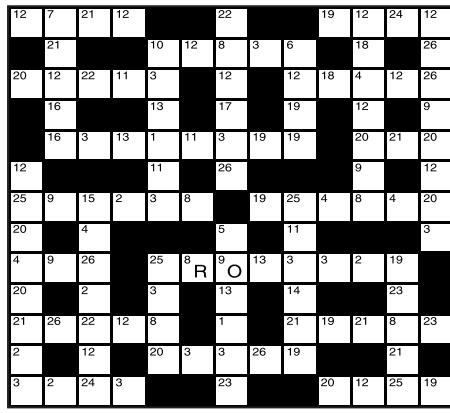
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	K	V	Q	Z	T	I	O	F	J	N	U	A	B
2	L	R	H	Y	S	C	P	D	E	W	G	M	X
3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

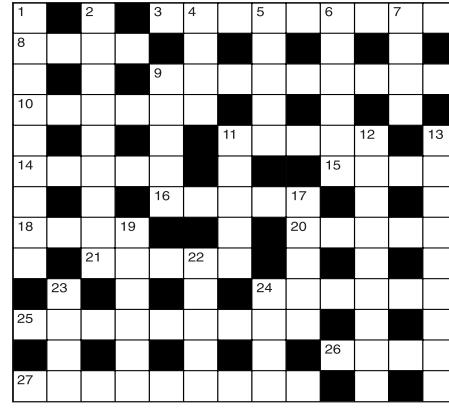
Cryptic Clues: Across

1. Old-timer maybe rough to a girl (4-5)
2. Dance and swim (4)
3. Self-driver (6,3)
4. And so I became a fair man (6)
5. Another name for a criminal (5)
6. Cab he orders to the seaside (5)
7. Act in rotation (4)
8. Odds, strangely enough (5)
9. Help a character in opera (4)
10. Liberal politician has some beer around (5)
11. A measure in progress (5)
12. A car's crashed by a learner - a culpable character (6)
13. A call to order, perhaps (9)
14. Antediluvian craftsman (4)
15. Member of a team as an extra occupation (2,3,4)

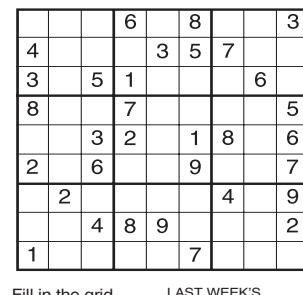
Down

1. Barge rate turned out to be an astronomical figure! (5,4)
2. Notes - possibly Roman made (9)
3. So backward about turning up for work (4)
4. A revolting subject (5)
5. A trail that winds, there may be a catch in it (6)
6. It's Ena's turn to be reasonable (4)
7. In panic he hides in a corner (5)
8. Well up in a small department (5)
9. Not much reason for doubt (9)
10. Choice (6)
11. Guide (5)
12. Didn't stand an enemy of good (5)
13. A new combination again (6)
14. Has to make professions of loyalty (5)
15. Things cracked up to stupefy (4)
16. Measure up a door (4)
17. Kept (9)

Sudoku



Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

2	6	8	9	3	7	5	4	1
3	9	7	4	5	1	2	6	8
5	4	1	8	2	6	9	3	7
4	3	6	2	8	5	7	1	9
8	5	9	1	7	3	6	2	4
7	1	2	6	4	9	8	5	3
6	7	4	5	1	8	3	9	2
9	2	3	7	6	4	1	8	5
1	8	5	3	9	2	4	7	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Sham; 3 Spectres; 8 Inca; 9 Joined up; 11 Pouring oil on; 13 Rather; 14 League; 17 Cinema screen; 20 Troubled; 21 Pier; 22 Obsess; 23 Less; 25 Town; 1 Skippers; 2 Account; 4 Plough; 5 Confidence; 6 Romeo; 7 Sane; 10 Life; 11 Dumb; 12 Meaning; 15 Grenade; 16 Waters; 18 Irons; 19 Said; QUICK - Across: 1 Cash; 3 Hardware; 8 Thin; 9 Misspent; 11 Red-letter day; 13 Clever; 14 Outset; 17 Picture-house; 20 Obedient; 21 Else; 22 Splitter; 23 Idol; Down: 1 Cataract; 2 Swindle; 4 Aviate; 5 Distracted; 6 Arena; 7 Eats; 10 Pedestrian; 12 Ethereal; 15 Squallid; 16 Orange; 18 Ideal; 19 Toss.

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78 King Charles Avenue, Walsall
Semi Detached Property In Need Of Modernisation
Guide: £45,000 - £54,000



Sandy Mount Road, Walsall
Former Highgate Brewery & Associated Buildings
Guide: £850,000 plus



Premises Corner of Bott Lane & Bank Street, Walsall
Industrial Premises
Guide: £225,000 - £250,000



Property Auction

Monday 7th July 2014
7:00pm Prompt
At the Premier Suite,
Bar Sport
High Green Cannock

Address	Saturday 14 th , 21 st & 28 th June 5 th July	Wednesday 10 th & 25 th June 2 nd July
16 Hardie Avenue, Rugeley	10.00am	11.00am
45 Bow Street, Rugeley	10.30am	11.30am
7 Foster Avenue, Huddersfield	11.15am	11.15am
91 Hill Street, Huddersfield	11.45am	11.45am
44 & 44a High Street, Chase Town	12.30pm	12.30pm
2a Middleton Avenue, Brownhills	1.15pm	1.15pm
57 Croxdene Avenue, Bloxwich	2.15pm	2.15pm



LOT 1
7 FOSTER AVENUE,
HEDNESFORD
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT
POSSESSION

- ◆ Traditional detached house
- ◆ Standing on a generous plot
- ◆ Requiring comprehensive renovation and refurbishment
- ◆ Benefiting from some double glazing
- ◆ EPC rating 1
Guide price £85,000



LOT 2
16 HARDIE AVENUE,
PEAR TREE ESTATE, RUGELEY
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT
POSSESSION

- ◆ Semi detached house
- ◆ In popular residential area
- ◆ Benefiting from partial double glazing and partial gas central heating
- ◆ EPC rating 56
GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000



LOT 3
44 & 44a HIGH STREET,
CHASE TOWN
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT
POSSESSION

- ◆ Ideal buy to let
- ◆ Prominently located detached building comprising ground floor shop with spacious self contained flat above
- ◆ Rear car parking
- ◆ Planning permission for conversion of shop to a two bedroom apartment (Lichfield District Council Reference 12/00073/COU)
- ◆ EPC rating 59
GUIDE PRICE £95,000



LOT 4
57 CROXDENE AVENUE,
BLOXWICH,
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT
POSSESSION

- ◆ Semi detached house
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Ideal buy to let
- ◆ EPC rating 59
GUIDE PRICE £90,000 - £100,000



LOT 5
91 HILL STREET,
HEDNESFORD
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT
POSSESSION

- ◆ Semi detached house
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Gas fired central heating (Not tested)
- ◆ In need of comprehensive renovation/refurbishment
- ◆ EPC rating 38
GUIDE PRICE £40,000-£50,000



LOT 6
3 bed detached house
Gas central heating
Predominantly double glazed
Standing on a good sized plot for owner occupation or may be suitable for redevelopment (subject to planning permission being obtained)
EPC rating 59
GUIDE PRICE £160,000 - £180,000



**2A
MIDDLETON
ROAD,
BROWNHILLS**
FREEHOLD
WITH VACANT
POSSESSION



LOT 7
45 BOW
STREET,
RUGELEY
FREEHOLD
WITH VACANT
POSSESSION

- ◆ Listed building offering extensive accommodation on three floors having been more recently used as pub/cub with ancillary and living accommodation on upper floors and courtyard
- ◆ Possible development opportunity
- ◆ EPC non domestic Band E
GUIDE PRICE £190,000-£225,000



**ENTRIES
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SEPTEMBER
2014
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REduced

EPC D



NEW

EPC D



EPC D

WALSALL
WREXHAM AVENUE
• Modernized traditional style semi detached • Three bedrooms • Lounge • Refitted dining kitchen • Bathroom • Gas central heating • D/Glazed • Cul-de-sac location • £475.00 PCM

BLOXWICH
BOOTH STREET
• Pleasant semi detached property • Three bedrooms • 18ft Dining kitchen including oven & hob • UPVC D/glazed conservatory • UPVC D/g glazed windows £550.00 PCM

WILLENHALL
GIPSY LANE
• Restored large Edwardian semi detached villa • Two double bedrooms • Two reception rooms • Fitted kitchen & utility • Bathroom & guest wc • Off road parking £495 PCM



EPC E



EPC C



EPC E

TENANTS!
OUR APPLICATION FEES
ARE ONLY
£150 PLUS VAT
THAT COVERS UP TO
THREE APPLICANTS!
A SECURITY DEPOSIT
EQUIVALENT TO **6 WEEKS**
OF THE RENT IS REQUIRED

LANDLORDS OUR SERVICE INCLUDES!

- Comprehensive Marketing
- Tenants Fully Vetted
- Efficient Transfer of Rent
- Managed & find a tenant only packages
- Single point of contact at Skitts

WE URGENTLY REQUIRE PROPERTIES IN WALSALL & BLOXWICH

CALL SARAH PARKES
(LETTINGS CO-ORDINATOR)
ON 01922 478104



LET

EPC C



LET

EPC E



LET

EPC D



LET

EPC E



LET

EPC F



LET

EPC D

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wednesbury@skitts.net 0121 505 1818

willenhall@skitts.net 01902 631151

bilston@skitts.net 01902 353578

greatbridge@skitts.net 0121 520 2255

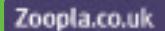
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wolverhampton@skitts.net 01902 788188

homes2let@skitts.net 0121 520 2255 (option 2)



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Tel: 01922 404446

74c Park Road, Bloxwich WS3 3SW • 36 Brownshore Lane, Essington WV11 2AL



NEW

Winehala Court
Willenhall
• 50% Shared Ownership
• Ground Floor Apartment
• Heated & Glazed
• 24 Hour Emergency
• Lounge, Kitchen, Shower Room
• 2 Bedrooms, Parking
£65,000



NO CHAIN

Kitchen Lane
Ashmore Park
• Semi detached house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• Fitted Kitchen
• 2 double bedrooms,
Coloured Bathroom
• Conservatory
• NO ONWARD CHAIN
£117,950



NO CHAIN

Howard Road
Ashmore Park
• Refurbished Throughout
• Semi Detached House
• Gas Centrally Heated
• PVCu Double Glazed
• Fitted Kitchen
• 2 double bedrooms,
Coloured Bathroom
• Conservatory
• NO ONWARD CHAIN
£124,950



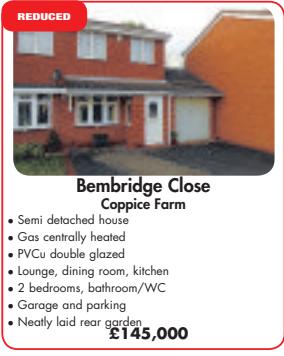
NEW

Hill Street
Essington
• Modern Mid Townhouse
• Gas Centrally Heated
• PVCu Double Glazed
• Through Lounge
• Kitchen/Utility
• Conservatory
• 4 Bedrooms
£134,950



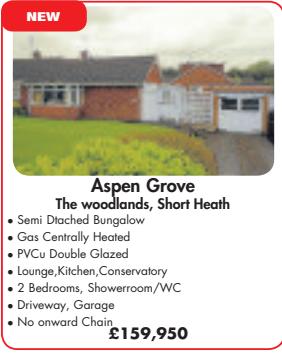
**VIEWING
ESSENTIAL**

Poole's Lane
Short Heath
• Extended Traditional
• Semi-Detached Home
• Three Bedrooms
• Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen
• Conservatory, Shower Room
• Garage, Landscaped Rear Garden
• Driveway
Offers In Excess Of £150,000



REDUCED

Bembridge Close
Coppice Farm
• Semi detached house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• Lounge, dining room, kitchen
• 2 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
• Garage and parking
• Neatly laid rear garden
£145,000



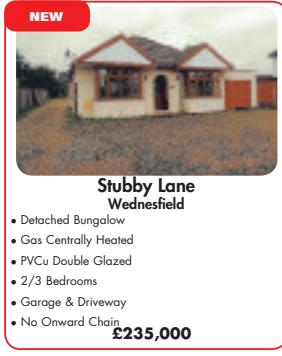
NEW

Aspen Grove
The Woodlands, Short Heath
• Semi Detached Bungalow
• Gas Centrally Heated
• PVCu Double Glazed
• Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory
• 2 Bedrooms, Showerroom/WC
• Driveway, Garage
• No onward Chain
£159,950



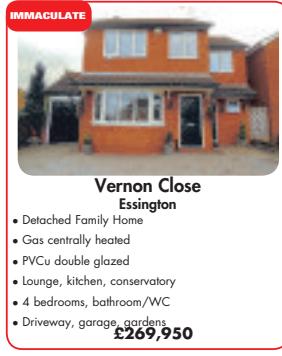
**VIEWING
ESSENTIAL**

Hawks Close
Chesnay Hay
• Link detached house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu Double Glazed
• Lounge, dining kitchen
• 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
• Garage, drive, garden
£174,950



NEW

Stubby Lane
Wednesfield
• Detached Bungalow
• Gas Centrally Heated
• PVCu Double Glazed
• 2/3 Bedrooms
• Garage, Drive
• No Onward Chain
£235,000



IMMACULATE

Vernon Close
Essington
• Detached Family Home
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• Lounge, kitchen, conservatory
• 4 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
• Driveway, garage, gardens
£269,950

We Know value of good service...

MANAGERS CHOICE


EPC E

**BLOXWICH
STONEY LANE**

- LOVELY EXTENDED CHARACTER TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY IN POPULAR LOCATION
- THREE BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- ESTABLISHED REAR GARDEN
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING, MAJORITY UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED
- VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

£158,000
PROPERTY OF THE WEEK


REDUCED

EPC C

**BLOXWICH
CROXDENE AVENUE**

- DETACHED PROPERTY WITH THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED FOR BLOXWICH RAILWAY STATION
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- GENEROUS REAR GARDEN
- NO ONWARD CHAIN!

£149,950 OFFERS
FEATURED PROPERTY


EPC -

**BLOXWICH
CHURSTON CLOSE**

- PLEASANTLY POSITIONED EXTENDED MODERN STYLE DETACHED PROPERTY IN POPULAR TURNBERRY ROAD DEVELOPMENT.
- FOUR BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONSERVATORY
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING & UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED WINDOWS
- INTERNAL VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!

£210,000 OFFERS

FREE MARKET APPRAISALS - Call us now on **01922 478104**

EPC: D


**BEECHDALE, WALSALL
HADLEY WAY**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED EXTENDED SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY WITH GARAGE TO THE REAR
- THREE BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- EXTENDED KITCHEN, INTERNAL VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!!

£104,950 OFFERS

EPC: D


**LEAMORE, WALSALL
BEATRICE STREET**

- TRADITIONAL STYLE THREE BEDROOM SEMI IN CONVENIENT LOCATION OFF BLOXWICH ROAD
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM

£99,950 OFFERS

REDUCED


**BLOXWICH
BOOTH STREET**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY CLOSE TO BLOXWICH TOWN
- THREE BEDROOMS, DOWNSTAIRS W.C.
- SUPERB FAMILY BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING, INTERNAL VIEWING RECOMMENDED!

£94,995 OFFERS

EPC: F


**LEAMORE, WALSALL
HARDEN ROAD**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY THOUGHT IDEAL FOR THE YOUNG FAMILY
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONSERVATORY
- BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY, INTERNAL VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!!

£115,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF

EPC: C


**BLOXWICH
MULBERRY ROAD**

- SUPERBLY APPOINTED THREE BEDROOM TOWN HOUSE IN POPULAR DUDLEY FIELDS AREA
- SPACIOUS BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- LARGE CONSERVATORY
- EN-SUITE SHOWER ROOM, VIEWING ESSENTIAL!!

£120,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF

EPC: D


**BEECHDALE, WALSALL
KELVIN ROAD**

- TWO BEDROOM END TOWN HOUSE ON CORNER PLOT WITH NO UPWARD CHAIN
- IDEAL FIRST TIME PURCHASE
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- POTENTIAL TO EXTEND SUBJECT TO RELEVANT PLANNING PERMISSION.

£83,000

NEW


**BLOXWICH
PARKER STREET**

- CONVENIENTLY LOCATED TERRACED PROPERTY SITUATED CLOSE TO BLOXWICH RAILWAY STATION
- TWO BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM
- REAR PARKING WITHIN GARDEN

£84,950 OFFERS

EPC: D


**WALSALL
COALPOOL LANE**

- PLEASANT THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY SITUATED IN SMALL SERVICE ROAD OFF COALPOOL LANE
- DOWNSTAIRS W.C
- GENEROUS REAR GARDEN
- BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY, INTERNAL VIEWING RECOMMENDED!!

£96,950 OFFERS

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Our friendly, professional, experienced and motivated sales personnel will guide you through the process of moving home from start to finish, offering a refreshing approach, combining traditional values with the latest technology.

MANAGERS CHOICE



**WALSALL
WESTBOURNE STREET**

- SUPERBLY APPOINTED AND CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED, EXTENDED VICTORIAN STYLE PROPERTY CONVENIENT TO WALSALL TOWN CENTRE
- FOUR BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- SUPERB BRAND NEW FITTED BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- PLEASANT REAR GARDEN
- NO CHAIN, MUST BE VIEWED INTERNALLY!!

£182,500 OFFERS

EPC: D

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



**NEW
NEWTOWN
STAFFORD ROAD**

- PLEASANT THREE BEDROOM VICTORIAN STYLE TERRACE WHICH ENJOYS LOVELY VIEWS OVER LOCAL COUNTRYSIDE TO THE REAR
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS

£124,950 OFFERS

EPC: D

FEATURED PROPERTY



**NEW INVENTION
LICHFIELD ROAD**

- EXTENDED THREE BEDROOM DETACHED PROPERTY SET BEHIND DEEP FRONTAGE ALONG POPULAR LICHFIELD ROAD
- FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- IDEAL FIRST TIME PURCHASE, VIEWING ESSENTIAL!
- EXTENDED LOUNGE
- GARAGE AND AMPLE OFF ROAD PARKING
- PLEASANT GARDEN TO THE REAR
- NO UPWARD CHAIN, VIEW VIA AGENT!

£160,000 OFFERS

EPC: D

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EPC: -

**BLAKENALL HEATH, WALSALL
BELL TOWER CLOSE**

- PLEASANT END TOWN HOUSE STYLE PROPERTY SITUATED ON MODERN DEVELOPMENT CLOSE TO LOCAL AMENITIES
- THREE BEDROOMS
- MASTER WITH EN-SUITE SHOWER ROOM
- INTERNAL VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!!

£140,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF



EPC: C

**BLOXWICH
SIMMONDS ROAD**

- EXTENDED SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY SITUATED IN POPULAR LOCATION OFFERED FOR SALE WITH NO UPWARD CHAIN.
- THREE BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- GARAGE AND OFF ROAD PARKING

£139,950 OFFERS



EPC: D

**PELSALL
MILLERS WALK**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED MODERN STYLE DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCE IN POPULAR PELSALL DEVELOPMENT.
- FOUR BEDROOMS AND EN-SUITE SHOWER
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, NO UPWARD CHAIN

£209,950 OFFERS



REDUCED

**BLOXWICH
LICHFIELD ROAD**

- VERY DECEPTIVE FOUR BEDROOM TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI WITH TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- BATHROOM AND EN-SUITE SHOWER / W.C
- NO UPWARD CHAIN, INTERNAL VIEWING NEEDED TO APPRECIATE!!

£154,950 OFFERS



EPC: C

**PELSALL
PLANT WAY**

- IMPROVED END TOWN HOUSE STYLE PROPERTY IN CUL DE SAC LOCATION
- THREE BEDROOMS
- RE-FITTED KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- REAR GARDENS

£114,950 OFFERS



EPC: F

**BLOXWICH
SNEYD LANE**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI, IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME PURCHASERS
- TWO BEDROOMS & UPSTAIRS BATHROOM,
- 24FT THROUGH LOUNGE/DINING ROOM, BLOCK PAVED DRIVE, INTERNAL VIEWING ESSENTIAL!!

£109,950



REDUCED

**WALSALL
WATER REED GROVE**

- WELL APPOINTED TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT WITH EN SUITE SHOWER ROOM LOCATED IN PURPOSE BUILT DEVELOPMENT,
- ELECTRIC STORAGE HEATING
- 16FT LOUNGE WITH JULIET BALCONY, NO UPWARD CHAIN, VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!!

£80,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF



EPC: D

**WALSALL
DICKINSON DRIVE**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI IN POPULAR DEVELOPMENT NEAR TO JUNCTION 9 M6 MOTORWAY
- TWO BEDROOMS AND UPSTAIRS BATHROOM,
- GENEROUS REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING!

£110,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF

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We Value Your Home

FEATURED PROPERTY



EPC D

**THOMPSON STREET
THE MANOR**

- Superb Modern Detached
- Hall
- Guests WC
- Three Reception Rooms
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- 4 Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Bathroom
- En-Suite Shower Room
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating System
- Rear Gardens
- Driveway
- Garage

£199,995

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



EPC C

**YALE ROAD
WILLENHALL**

- Reduced
- Superb Modern Detached
- Spacious Lounge, Dining Area
- Sitting Room/Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- En-Suite Shower Room
- Double Glazing

£164,950

FEATURED PROPERTY



EPC C

**CADNAM CLOSE
WILLENHALL**

- Superb Modern Style Detached
- Spacious Lounge
- Impressive Dining Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Three Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Ample Driveway
- Garage
- Rear Gardens

£160,000

FREE MARKET APPRAISALS - Call us now on **01902 631151**

NO CHAIN



EPC D

**BARMOUTH CLOSE
WILLENHALL**

- Modern Style Detached Property
- Large Lounge • Dining Room
- Re-Fitted Kitchen • Utility with Guests WC
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating
- Integral Garage • Gardens • No Chain

£170,000

EPC TBC

**ROSEWOOD DRIVE
COPPICE FARM**

- Much improved modern semi detached
- Three bedrooms • Lounge
- Superb newly fitted dining kitchen
- Conservatory • Refitted bathroom
- Double glazing • Gas central heating
- Block paved driveway • Rear garden

£160,000

EPC C

**BECCLES DRIVE
WILLENHALL**

- Improved Modern Semi Detached
- Lounge with Feature Fireplace • Dining Kitchen
- Three Good-Size Bedrooms
- Bathroom • En-suite Shower Room
- Driveway • Front & Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System

£135,000

EPC E

**LUCKNOW ROAD
WILLENHALL**

- Modern style link detached
- Three good size bedrooms • Refitted bathroom
- Spacious lounge • Dining room
- Impressive conservatory • Refitted kitchen
- Double glazing • Gas central heating
- Superb Gardens • Garage and driveway

£144,950

EPC E

**NOOSE LANE
WILLENHALL**

- Well Appointed Detached
- Hall with Guest wc
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Lounge and Dining room • Kitchen
- Conservatory/utility • Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating • Front and Rear Gardens

OFFERS OVER £140,000

EPC D

**DILLOWAYS LANE
WILLENHALL**

- Extended Traditional Bay Fronted Semi Detached Property
- Through Lounge • Fitted Kitchen
- Superb Family / Dining Room with Utility Area
- Three Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Block Paved Driveway • Rear Garden
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System

£133,995

EPC D

**LABURNUM GROVE
BENTLEY**

- Superb End Terrace • No Chain
- Lounge • Sitting Room
- Dining Kitchen
- Two Double Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating
- Pleasant Gardens • Driveway

£94,950

EPC C

**ESSINGTON ROAD
NEW INVENTION**

- Superb ground floor apartment • No Chain
- Two bedrooms
- 14ft front lounge • Fitted kitchen
- Fitted bathroom with shower
- Secure Allocated parking space
- Double Glazing • Gas central heating

£79,950

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FEATURED PROPERTY



EPC C

NEWLANDS CLOSE WILLENHALL

- Extended Modern Link Detached
- No Upward Chain
- Hall
- Lounge
- Family / Dining Room
- Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Garage
- Driveway
- Front & Rear Gardens

REDUCED TO £134,950



MANAGER'S CHOICE



EPC D

LEVEN DRIVE COPPIE FARM

- Improved Modern End Terrace
- No Upward Chain
- Prime Location
- Popular Estate
- Entrance Hall
- Through Lounge
- Dining Area
- Fitted Kitchen
- Garage
- Driveway
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

REDUCED TO £140,000



FEATURED PROPERTY



EPC E

DURHAM AVENUE WILLENHALL

- Traditional Semi Detached
- Popular Location
- No Chain
- Hall
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Driveway
- Pleasant Rear Gardens

REDUCED TO £117,500

FREE MARKET APPRAISALS - Call us now on 01902 631151



NEW

EPC TBC

KEWSTOKE ROAD SNEYD PARK

- Extended Detached Property • Prime Location
- Hall with Guests WC
- 4 Bedrooms
- Spacious Lounge
- Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas CH
- Garage
- Driveway
- Large Corner Plot Gardens

£185,000



NEW

EPC E

CADNAM CLOSE WILLENHALL

- Modern Detached Property
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating System
- Garage & Driveway
- Rear Gardens

£139,950



NEW

EPC TBC

LICHFIELD ROAD SHORT HEATH

- Extended Semi Detached On Popular Road
- Hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Ground Floor Bedroom
- Two First Floor Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Large Gardens
- No Chain

£120,000



NEW

EPC C

EDINBURGH AVENUE BENTLEY

- Superb well appointed semi detached
- Lounge
- Refitted breakfast kitchen
- Utility
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Rear garden

OFFERS OVER £110,000



REDUCED

EPC E

LABURNUM GROVE BENTLEY

- Renovated Mid Terrace Property
- No Chain
- Through Lounge/ Dining Room
- Large Breakfast Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom & Separate WC
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating System
- Driveway
- Rear Gardens

£106,000



NEW

EPC TBC

RUGELEY AVENUE NEW INVENTION

- Semi Detached Property
- Popular Location
- Through Lounge with Dining Area
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Utility
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom with Separate WC
- Double Glazing
- Part Gas Central Heating System

£105,000



NEW

EPC F

FISHER STREET WILLENHALL

- Well presented period end terrace
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted shower room
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Rear garden
- Viewing recommended

£95,000



NEW

EPC D

MAGNESS CRESCENT WILLENHALL

- Pleasantly appointed semi
- Three bedrooms
- Hall / Sitting Room
- Spacious Lounge/dining room
- Refitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Block paved driveway
- Pleasant rear garden
- No Chain

AUCTION STARTING PRICE £80,000

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**Willenhall
KINGFISHER GROVE**

- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED
- Conservatory & ORP•Lounge
- Kitchen•Utility•En-Suite
- Family Bathroom•Gardens

£695 PCM



**Rushall
CARTBRIDGE LANE SOUTH**

- TWO BEDROOM MID-TERRACE
- Double Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking•Bathroom
- Kitchen•Lounge/Diner

£550 PCM



**Walsall
COALPOOL LANE**

- Three Bedroom Semi
- Lounge•Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom•Sorry No DHSS
- Front and Rear Gardens

£525 PCM



**Walsall
HILLARY STREET**

- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen•Ground Floor Bathroom
- Loft Bedroom•Garage

£500 PCM



- THREE BED TERRACE
- Lounge•Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom•Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing•Front & Rear Gardens

£495 PCM



**Willenhall
SQUIRES GROVE**

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge•Diner•Fitted Kitchen•En-Suite
- Bathroom•D.Glazing•Electric Heating
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

£495 PCM



**Walsall
ARCHER ROAD**

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- D.Glazing and Gas Central Heating
- Lounge•Kitchen/Diner•DHSS Accepted
- Family Bathroom•Gardens

£475 PCM



**Bloxwich
CHANTRY AVENUE**

- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- D.Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Lounge•Kitchen•Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking•DHSS

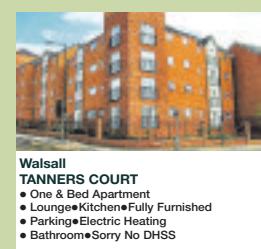
£450 PCM



**Walker Road
GUILD COURT**

- One & Bed Apartments
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Bathroom•Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing•Allocated Parking

£450 PCM



**Walsall
TANNERS COURT**

- One & Bed Apartment
- Lounge•Kitchen•Fully Furnished
- Parking•Electric Heating
- Bathroom•Sorry No DHSS

£425 PCM



**Willenhall
ARGYLL COURT**

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Bathroom
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

£425 PCM



**Walsall
KENT STREET**

- Three Bed Terrace Property
- D.Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Lounge
- Kitchen•Bathroom
- Rear Garden•DHSS Accepted

£425 PCM



**Walsall
MURDOCK WAY**

- Three Bedroom Terraced
- Double Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Lounge•Dining Room•Utility•Kitchen
- Front and Rear Gardens

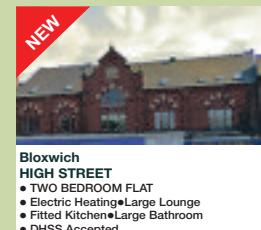
£425 PCM



**Bloxwich
ROCKINGHAM CLOSE**

- Two Bedroom Flats
- Communal Entrance
- Lounge•Kitchen
- Allocated Parking in Courtyard

£400 PCM



**Bloxwich
HIGH STREET**

- TWO BEDROOM FLAT
- Electric Heating•Large Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen•Large Bathroom
- DHSS Accepted

£400 PCM



**Walsall
CAIRNS STREET**

- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Double Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Through Lounge•Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom•Rear Garden•DHSS

£400 PCM



**Walsall
TAME CLOSE**

APARTMENT

- ONE BED FIRST FLOOR
- Lounge with Balcony
- Kitchen•Shower Room
- Communal Grounds and Parking

£395 PCM



**Walsall
SLANEY ROAD**

- One Bedroom Maisonette
- Large Lounge•Kitchen•Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating•Double Glazing
- Cul-De-Sac Location•Sorry No DHSS

£375 PCM



**Bloxwich
HARRISON STREET**

- One Bedroom Flat
- Lounge•Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazing•Electric heating
- DHSS Accepted

£350 PCM



**Walsall
HARDEN CLOSE**

- TWO BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT
- Double Glazing•Lounge
- Kitchen•Bathroom
- Rear Garden•DHSS Accepted

£325 PCM



**Willenhall
WOOD LANE**

- New Build Three Bedroom Townhouse
- Double Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Fitted Kitchen•Lounge•Conservatory
- Family Bathroom•En-suite Shower room

From £695 PCM



ROTHESAY WAY

- Three/Four Bed Semi-Detached
- Lounge•Dining Room•Kitchen
- Third Reception/Fourth Bedroom
- Shower Room
- Garage and Front & Rear Gardens

£575 PCM



**Willenhall
GRAZEWOOD CLOSE**

- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached property
- D.Glazing and Gas Central Heating
- Newly fitted Bathroom
- Lounge•Kitchen/Diner with patio doors

£550 PCM



**Great Wyrley
STAFFORD ROAD**

- Two Bed END-TERRACE PROPERTY
- D.Glazing and Gas C.Heating
- Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden

£525 PCM



**Walsall
MOAT ROAD**

- Two Bed Flat above retail premises
- Lounge•Kitchen
- Shower Room
- DHSS Accepted

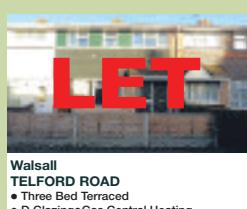
£350 PCM



**Walsall
WATERFRONT WAY**

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge•Kitchen•Bathroom
- Secure Allocated Parking
- Sorry No DHSS

£495 PCM



**Walsall
TELFORD ROAD**

- Three Bed Terraced
- D.Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Lounge•Kitchen/Diner
- Utility•Bathroom•DHSS Accepted

£475 PCM



**Walsall
PENDLEBURY CLOSE**

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NEW INSTRUCTION



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WILLENHALL**
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£82,000

NEW INSTRUCTION



**WREXHAM AVE,
BENTLEY**
Three Bedroom Traditional Semi. Entrance Porch & Hall, Lounge, Extended Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms & Family Bathroom. Outside Is Off Road Parking, Shared Driveway, Garage And Rear Garden.

£97,500

REDUCED



**WYCHNOLD CL,
NEW INVENTION**
Well Presented Three Bed End Town House Having Entrance Porch, Hallway, Ground Floor W.C., Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, Majority C/Heating & Rear Garden.

£104,995

NEW INSTRUCTION



**AMPLEFORTH DR,
W'HALL**
Self Contained First Floor Two Bed Apartment Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Staircase To First Floor, Hall, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen And Bathroom. Allocated Parking. MUST VIEW!

£107,995

NEW INSTRUCTION



**WALKERS FOLD,
SHORT HEATH**
Two Bed Mid Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Lounge/Diner And Modern Shower Room. Outside Are Two Allocated Parking Spaces & Rear Garden.

£109,995

REDUCED



**LOMBARDY GDN,
SHORT HEATH**
Superbly Presented Two Bedroom Semi Detached Property. Comprises Of Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms & Bathroom. Gardens To Both The Front And Rear. Detached Garage And Driveway.

£130,000

NEW INSTRUCTION



**WHITWOOD
GLADE, W'HALL**
Three Bed Semi Detached House Comprising Of Spacious Lounge, Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen And Family Bathroom. Gardens To Front And Rear, Driveway Parking And Detached Garage.

£137,500

NEW INSTRUCTION



**LICHFIELD RD,
NEW INVENTION**
Two Bed Detached Bungalow Having Through Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway.

£189,995



HAWKSWELL DR, W'HALL
One Bedroom End Townhouse Located On Hadley Heath Estate Having Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, Off Road Parking And Enclosed Garden, Ideal First Time Buy! MUST VIEW.

£64,995



VICTORIA ST, WILLENHALL
Well Presented Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY OR BUY TO LET!

£72,995



GIPSY LANE, WILLENHALL
Three Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Gas C/Heating, IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY OR BUY TO LET!

£74,995



VICTORIA ST, WILLENHALL
Spacious Three Bedroom Victorian Mid Terraced Property Having Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, First Floor Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, Gas C/Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden

£83,500



SQUIRES GROVE, NEW INVENTION
Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment. Superbly Presented Accommodation Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Two Good Sized Bedrooms With En-Suite To Master And Family Bathroom.

£89,950



KEATS RD, SHORT HEATH
Well Presented, Spacious Three Bed End Town House. Comprises Of Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C., Family Bathroom, Separate W.C., Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating.

£89,955



CHAUCER AVE, SHORT HEATH
Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Side Storage Area, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden, No Upward Chain.

£89,995



POOLE'S LANE, SHORT HEATH
A Well Presented Three Bedroom End Of Terrace Having Front Reception Room, Open Plan Kitchen/Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Family Bathrooms, Three Bedrooms, First Floor Separate W.C., D/Glazing, C/Heating, Good Sized Rear Garden And No Upward Chain.

£89,995



REDWOOD WAY, COPPICE FARM
Immaculately Presented One Bed Ground Floor Flat Having Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Modern Fitted Bathrooms, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Rear Garden And Driveway. To The Fore Allowing Off Road Parking For Two Vehicles And A Private Enclosed Rear Garden.

£89,995



SQUIRES GR, NEW INVENTION
Two Bed Modern First Floor Apartment Having Entrance Hall, Private Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Electric Heating, UPVC Double Glazing And Allocated Parking.

£89,995



BLOXWICH RD, LEAMORE
Spacious Two Bed Semi Having Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Electric Heating, UPVC Double Glazing And Off Road Parking.

£95,000



COLTHAM RD, SHORT HEATH
Well Presented Three Bedroom Mid Terraced House. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor Bathroom And Three Bedrooms. Off Road Parking To The Front And Garden To The Rear.

£100,000



BENTON CL, WILLENHALL
Well Presented Three Bedroom Mid Terraced House. Comprises Of Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Side Storage Area, Two Double Bedrooms And Family Bathroom. Also Benefits From UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating And Double Glazing.

£104,995



POPLAR AVE, BENTLEY
Three Bedroom End Town House. Comprises Of Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Side Storage Area, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating. Front And Rear Gardens.

£105,000



LIME AVE, BENTLEY
Three Bedroom Mid Terrace House Having Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Side Storage Area, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating. Front And Rear Gardens.

£109,995



WILLENHALL ST, DARLASTON
Modern Three Bed Semi-Detached Property Having Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C., Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing & Allocated Parking.

£109,995



THE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL
Modern Two Bed Semi Having Lounge With Open Plan Staircase, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Hardwood D/Glazing, C/Heating, Rear Gardens & Off Road Parking. To The Fore Allowing Off Road Parking For Two Vehicles And A Private Enclosed Rear Garden.

£110,000



BENTON CL, WILLENHALL
Extended Three Bedroom Town House. Comprising Of Entrance Hall, 27ft Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, 20ft Lounge, Study, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom And Separate W.C. Driveway Parking And Rear Garden.

£119,995



Castle Drive, Willenhall
Two Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow Located On The Popular Hayes Estate. Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Electric Heating, UPVC Double Glazing, C/Heating And Off Road Parking.

£124,995



STUBBINGTON CL, PORTOBELLO
Spacious Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow. Comprises Of Entrance Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Sunroom, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Double Glazing, C/Heating And Off Road Parking.

£129,995



SQUIRES GR, NEW INVENTION
Modern Two Bed End Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Two Double Bedrooms Both With En-Suite, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Separate Garage.

£130,000



WOODSIDE WAY, SHORT HEATH
Extended Two Bedroom Semi Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Two Double Bedrooms Both With En-Suite, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Separate Garage.

£130,000



WILLOW GROVE, WILLENHALL
Three Storey Three Bed Town House Having Entrance Hallway, Ground Floor W.C., Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Off Road Parking.

£134,950



RIDINGS WAY, SHORT HEATH
Three Bedroom Semi-Detached House Situated In Short Heath. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Ground Floor W.C., Lounge, Fitted Kitchen And Separate Dining Area, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Off Road Parking.

£134,950



SANDRINGHAM AVE, W'HALL
Three Bed Semi Detached Property Having Entrance Porch, Entrance Hallway, Spacious Through Lounge/Diner, Extended Kitchen, Refitted Family Bathroom, Hardwood D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage & Driveway.

£134,995



BASEALT CLOSE, REEDSWOOD
Modern Three Bedroom End Town House Comprising Of Fitted Kitchen, Lounge/Diner, En-Suite, Fitted Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage & Off Road Parking. Viewing Recommended!

£139,995



RAVNSCROFT RD, WILLENHALL
Extended Three Bedroom Semi Detached Adapted To Allow For Disabled Living. Comprising Of Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Dining Room And Adjacent Wet Room And Family Bathroom. Also With Off Road Parking & Garage.

£140,000



LONGWOOD RISE, WILLENHALL
Immaculate Three Bed Detached Property Comprises Of Spacious Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Dining Room, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Jacuzzi Bath, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Detached Garage And Block Paved Driveway.

£157,995



CASTLE DRIVE, WILLENHALL
Extended Four Bed Semi Having Porch, Hallway, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Ground Floor W.C., Sitting Room, Utility, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Additional Sitting Room/Bedroom, Four Three First Floor Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Double Glazing, Double Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Off Road Parking.

£159,995



PRINCETHORPE RD, WILLENHALL
Superbly Presented Four Bedroom Town House Comprising Of Lounge, Ground Floor W.C., Sitting Room, Utility, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Four Bedrooms, Four Three First Floor Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Double Glazing, Double Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Off Road Parking.

£159,995



BIRCHTREE HOLLOW, WILLENHALL
Extended Five Bed Semi Detached Having Large Living Room, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Large Open Plan Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor W.C., Additional Sitting Room, Four Bedrooms, Four Three First Floor Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Double Glazing, Double Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Off Road Parking.

£169,995



HIGHMOOR CL, COPPIE FARM
Three Bed Detached Having Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Ground Floor W.C., Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Block Paved Driveway.

£169,995

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DPS



Awesome warp speed car but at what a cost

By Sharon Walters

The race for power, pace and prestige has been well and truly joined by the German triumvirate of Audi, BMW and Mercedes, all of whom have produced fire-breathing beasts which wouldn't look out of place on a Formula 1 track.

A product of the finest technology the Audi RS7 is simply awesome, the 560ps four litre twin turbo V8 delivering warp speed and power as the firm seeks to attract the big spenders in search of thrills on four wheels.

It is a huge, stunning-looking car, sleek, curved and angled in all the right places and shod with 20 inch alloys – although the stylish 21 inch five-spoke bladed black wheels on this model are the matter of another £2,000.

But it does look good as do all RS models, with its low stance, its predatory-looking lights with LED surrounds and all the red RS badging and trim exuding a look of power – and if it doesn't fail to deliver.

Harnessed to Audi's quattro four-wheel drive system and a seamless eight speed automatic gearbox, the car powers from 0-60mph in 3.9 seconds - and just for the record, if you can get it on a race track or the German autobahn, it has a top speed of nearly 190mph. The eight-speed automatic gearbox is barely registers the gear changes, but if you like you can have fun with paddles behind the steering wheels.

The acceleration is enough to have you and your passengers reaching for the neck brace, and there is a satisfying V8 roar from the twin exhausts under acceleration.

Sophisticated

It also has amazing grip thanks to the all-wheel drive system but even then all the sophisticated electronics are battling to keep it in straight line.

If it looks like a flying machine without wings from the outside the interior is pure space age, featuring just about every gadget, well most, you could want from a car costing more than £80,000.

Well, that's not strictly true and in this case the car was loaded with extras worth an eye-watering £30,000, including a Bang & Olufsen sound system at more than six grand.

High tech features can include goodies such as cockpit-style head-up display which projects info onto the windscreen, multi-settings for engine management and suspension set up via the intelligent central brain controlled from the console between the two front seats. This also controls music, navigation and telephone connections.

Fixtures and fitting are pure luxury with a sporty look and soft touch finishes abound.

The four interior seats are also sporty but comfortable. Made from honeycombed quilted leather with grey stitching, they grip the occupants firmly but comfortably.

Flying machine it may be but it is also fairly practical, comfortably accommodating four adults and features a large, shallow but long boot which is accessed via the large hatchback tailgate.

The rear seats fold increasing the 535 litres stowage space to more than decent 1,390 litres.

Fuel consumption is probably not an issue when forking out this much cash, but average consumption according to the car's computer ended up at nearly 25mpg, not bad against a claimed 28.8mpg and I did not have to fill it up after every couple of lamposts. It seems odd to have stop/start technology on such a car, but perhaps it did shift up that economy figure.

The 560ps is not much good if the car won't stay on the road and as you would expect of a car of this pedigree, the handling is faultless, with the all-wheel drive traction and stability programmes making it cling to the road limpet-like on fast corners.

The ride however, can be like a go-kart especially when the dynamic option is selected on those engine management settings. Even when switched to comfort mode the ride is borderline harsh. But if you buy a sporty car like this, that probably is not an issue.

Sports car performance with a bit on top, plus cutting edge technology and car park kudos, it's great, but what a price.

Price: £82,010



Corsa 1.2 Excite A/C 3DR 0% APR REPRESENTATIVE



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Excess mileage charge.....	9p/mile
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2013/63 Astra 2.0 CDTi SRI Sat Nav 5dr Hatch, Sovereign Silver, 1826 miles..... £14699

2012/62 Astra 2.0 CDTi Sri Start/Stop 5dr Hatch, Olympic White, 5434 m..... £13999

2013/13 Astra 2.0 VRX Aero Pack Hatchback, Olympic White, 123 miles..... £20999

2013/13 Astra Nav 1.7 CDTi Sri 99 CO2 S/S 5dr Hatch, Asteroid Grey, 8096 m..... £12999

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2012/62 Insignia 2.0 CDTi Elite Nav 5dr Hatch, Tech/Grey, 14000 m..... £14999

2012/62 Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRI NAV 5dr Est Auto, Olympic/White, 12361 m..... £15999

VAUXHALL MERIVA

2012/12 Meriva 1.4 Excite 5 Door MPV, Carbon Flash, 19900 miles..... £7999

2011/11 Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv 5 Door MPV, Star Silver, 13000 miles..... £7699

2011/11 Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv 5 Door MPV, Waterworld Blue, 1600 miles..... £7699

2011/11 Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv 5 Door MPV, Waterworld Blue, 34000 miles..... £6999

2011/11 Meriva 1.4 SE 5 Door MPV, Pepper Dust, 6044 miles..... £7999

2011/11 Meriva 1.4 SE 5 Door MPV, Silver Lake, 35000 miles..... £7999

2011/11 Meriva 1.4 Turbo SE MPV, Carbon Flash, 17261 miles..... £8499

2011/11 Meriva 1.7 CDTi SE 5 Door MPV, Pepper Dust, 19981 miles..... £8999

2011/11 Meriva 1.7 CDTi SE 5 Door MPV, Pepper Dust, 22000 miles..... £8299

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VAUXHALL ZAFIRA

2011/11 Zafira 1.6 Exclusiv 5 Door MPV, Sovereign Silver, 15684 miles..... £8499

2011/11 Zafira 1.7 CDTi Design ecoFLEX MPV, Flame Red, 13021 miles..... £9999

2011/11 Zafira 1.7 CDTi Exclusiv ecoFLEX 5dr MPV, Star Silver, 20461 miles..... £9299

2011/11 Zafira 1.7 CDTi Exclusiv ecoFLEX 5dr MPV, Sov/Silver, 37000 miles..... £8499

2012/62 Zafira 2.0 CDTi ecoFLEX Tourer EX S/S 5dr MPV, Sov/Silver, 10 m..... £15999

2013/63 Zafira 2.0 CDTi Sri Tourer S/S 5dr MPV, Carb/Flash, 6000 m..... £17999

CHEVROLET

2010/60 Aveo 1.2 LS X Pack 5dr Hatch, Light Grey, 23300 miles..... £4699

2011/11 Aveo 1.2 S 3dr Hatchback, Ice Silver, 16500 miles..... £3999

2011/11 Aveo 1.2 XS 3dr Hatchback, Sport Blue, 14000 miles..... £4699

2013/63 Captiva 2.2 VCDi LTZ 5dr Estate Auto, Carbon Flash, 1500 m..... £21999

2011/11 Orlando 1.8 LT 5 Door MPV, Summit White, 8000 miles..... £8999

2011/11 Orlando 2.0 VCDi LT 5 Door MPV, Pewter Grey, 42500 miles..... £8999

2011/11 Spark 1.0 LS 5 Door Hatchback, Summit White, 25000 miles..... £4999

2010/60 Spark 1.0 LS 5 Door Hatchback, Ice Teal, 17000 miles..... £4999

OTHER MAKES

2010/60 Alfa Romeo Mito 1.4 Veloce MultiAir 3dr Hatch, Ametista Black, 13681 m..... £8999

2010/10 Fiat 500 1.2 Pop 3 Door Hatchback, Bossa Nova White, 26000 miles..... £6999

2012/62 Ford Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 5 Door Hatchback, Alpine White, 8000 miles..... £8999

2011/61 Ford Fusion 1.6 Titanium 5 Door Hatchback, Ice Silver, 7454 miles..... £7699

2010/10 Volkswagen Polo 1.2 SE 3dr Hatchback, Satin Silver, 15500 miles..... £6799



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Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) & CO₂ emissions. Vauxhall Excite 3-door hatchback 1.2i 16v VVT, Manual 5-speed, Excite (a/c); Urban: 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban: 62.8 (4.5), Combined: 51.4 (5.5). CO₂ emissions (g/km): 129g/km. Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes & actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions & other non-technical factors. Picture for illustration only. *First year insurance offer available on Corsa Excite. The offer will cover the full premium for drivers aged between 21-75 (motor policy only). Drivers must have held a valid full UK licence for a minimum of 1 year. Only available through Vauxhall Insurance. Policies are underwritten by Ageas Insurance Ltd. Other insurance specific terms and conditions apply. For more information on Network Q contact Brindley Vauxhall or visit www.networkq.co.uk.



Volvo hybrid gets boost of R-Design

The super-efficient Volvo V60 Plug-in Hybrid – one of the best-selling hybrid-electrified vehicles in Europe in 2013 – is now also available in Volvo Cars' R-Design specification.

"We sold almost 8,000 plug-in hybrids in 2013. Adding the R-Design dynamic attributes to the V60 Plug-in Hybrid – the world's first diesel plug-in hybrid – will further broaden its appeal. The customer gets segment-topping performance combined with outstanding efficiency," says Alain Visser, senior vice-president marketing, sales and customer service at Volvo Car Group.

The Volvo V60 D6 AWD R-Design Lux Nav is available from £51,675 (excluding £5,000 Plug-In Car Grant) on the road and can be ordered now, with expected deliveries from August.

The V60 Plug-in Hybrid R-Design features a number of unique interior and exterior features which create a sporty presence. The exterior blends the Plug-in Hybrid identification with the R-Design front bumper and grille, rear diffuser and 18in Ixion wheels.

Inside, the car comes with a full R-Design interior, featuring sports seats as standard with a blend of black nubuck textile and perforated leather. Amongst the other unique R-Design features, also includes sports pedals, sports floor mats and charcoal headlining. The car retains the special plug-in hybrid instrumentation and information.

Contact

Also fitted as standard on all PHEVs is Volvo's telematic system, Volvo On Call. This system allows users to use a free mobile app to access a number of functions and keeps the driver in constant contact with the vehicle, no matter where they are.

The front wheels of the V60 Plug-in Hybrid are powered by a five-cylinder 2.4-litre turbodiesel producing 215hp and 440Nm of torque. The car has a six-speed automatic transmission.

The rear axle is powered by an electric motor producing 70 horsepower and 200Nm of torque. It is supplied with power from an 11.2kWh lithium-ion battery pack installed under the floor of the load compartment.

The driver selects the required driving mode via three buttons that give the car three entirely different temperaments: Pure, Hybrid or Power.

In the default hybrid mode, the carbon dioxide emissions are down to just 48g/km. This corresponds to fuel consumption of 155.2 mpg (NEDC certification driving cycle for hybrids).

What is more, at the touch of a button the driver can choose to cover up to 31 miles on pure electric power – or utilise the combined capacity of the diesel engine and electric motor to create a veritable driving machine that offers 215+70 horsepower and 440+200Nm of torque.



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Kia range fuel consumption (mpg): Urban 19.3–54.3, Extra-Urban 31–70.6, Combined 26.2–62.8, Co2 117–258 g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. Price, Reevo score and number of reviews correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. Review quoted relates to the Kia Picanto range. *Model shown is a Picanto 3-dr 'VR7' 1.0 68bhp 5-speed manual @ £8,894.00 including customer saving of £750 and excluding optional metallic paint at £455. Retail customers only. Customer savings vary by model derivative. Ask your dealer for full details. †3 years' servicing (Kia Care-3) for £99 offer is only valid on applicable 'VR7' models. Log onto kia.co.uk/care3 for full details. Subject to availability on vehicles registered before 30 June 2014. Participating dealers only. *4.9% APR available on Kia Conditional Sale on Picanto models. Excess mileage charged at 14.9 pence per mile. Maximum term of 36 months. Offer not available in conjunction with any other offer. Model shown is a New 2014 Kia Sportage '14 1.6 crdi manual 5-seat. *Excluding 'I' and 'KX1' Models. Finance Subject to Status. Guarantees and Indemnities may be required. 18s or over. Kia Motors Finance RH1 ISR. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Pictures for illustration only. We are licensed credit brokers. 7yr Warranty: terms and conditions apply, please see our website for details.

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Drivetime



Spec unveiled for Ypsilon

Details and pricing for the revised Chrysler Ypsilon range have been announced by Fiat UK.

The range features new entry and premium versions, additional equipment on the mid-range car, fresh colour choices, and new names that bring the UK series in line with the rest of Europe.

Powered by a choice of three economical, low emission engines – 1.2-litre 69 hp petrol, 1.3-litre MultiJet 95 hp diesel and 0.9-litre 85 hp petrol – the range now comes in three trim levels, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

With a starting price of just £9,895 for the 1.2 Silver, the new Ypsilon, which is available the UK now, represents outstanding value for money.

Ypsilon Silver, which replaces the S

version, is comparably equipped but includes internal and external styling changes, new seat design and detail finishes. The exterior is further enhanced by a refreshed colour range which includes three new colours: Marble Grey, Khaki Grey, and Saphire Blue.

Linked to the paint colour is a choice of internal and external finishes to items such as front grille, door mirror covers, hub cap centres and dashboard panel – all of which are available in either gloss black or matt dark grey. Added to this, the final accent colour is also selectable between Coconut, Watermelon or Lime, dependent on the body-colour.

The new Ypsilon Gold version is a direct replacement for the outgoing SE, and is identical in both equipment (including 15in alloy wheels, air con

ditioning, leather-wrapped steering wheel and power door mirrors) and look – with the addition of Blue&Me as standard equipment. This allows the driver to connect an external music device and stay legal and safe with built-in Bluetooth technology for telephone calls on the move.

Top-of-the-range Platinum version takes Ypsilon back to its origins as a luxury small car. Packed with unprecedented standard equipment, it features include 16in alloy wheels, automatic climate control, rear power windows, cruise control, part leather seats and Magic Parking, which helps the driver park in tight spaces.

We are confident we are offering an attractive package, with excellent technology and equipment, at exceptional value-for-money prices, says Damien Dally, head of brand, Chrysler UK."

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 373 - 88g/km.*

Available on selected models only, at participating Retailers. Finance subject to status. Terms and Conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Finance supplied by Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. **Vauxhall Deposit Contributions vary and exclude certain models. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers or contact your local Vauxhall Retailer for details. ^Customer deposit shown after deduction of retailer contribution. £First year insurance offer available on Corsa Excite and Limited Edition models. The offer will cover the full premium for drivers aged between 21-75 (motor policy only). Drivers must have held a valid full UK licence for a minimum of 1 year. Only available through Vauxhall Insurance. Policies are underwritten by Ageas Insurance Ltd. Other insurance specific Terms and Conditions apply. (Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and Conditions apply. Offers available on orders or registrations between 2 April and 1 July 2014. We can introduce you to a finance provider, commission maybe received. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

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tax and MoT'd, 49,000 miles, £850
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KIA CARENS 1.9 DIESEL
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TOYOTA CELICA 1.8 VVTI
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Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2010 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planning.services@walsall.gov.uk or by writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Please note: Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

14/0760/FL CWG Choices Ltd: FOR: Removal of condition of planning permission BC63485P (construction of 6 industrial units) to permit 24 hours/7days a week deliveries/despatch or loading/unloading of goods and materials in regard to unit 10 AT: Unit 10, Westgate Park, Tintagel Way, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 8BS

14/0762/FL Cordwell Property Group FOR: Variation of condition 21 of planning consent 13/0206/FL to allow substitution of plans. AT: Vacant Land off Wisemore, Walsall, WS1

14/0767/FL Walsall Housing Group; FOR: Full planning application for 157 residential dwellings with car parking, new estate roads, public open space, canal side park and associated infrastructure; AT: LAND At Silver Court, Silver Street, Brownhills, Walsall, WS9 6E5

* 14/0782/FL Valley Nurseries Garden Centre FOR: Redevelopment of garden centre site to provide 5 x 4 bed detached houses each with a detached double garage. AT: Valley Nurseries, Erdington Road, Walsall, WS9 0SB

14/0771/OL Walsall Housing Group FOR: Application for outline planning permission for up to 40 residential units with means of access included (all other matters reserved). AT: Former Market Site, Land at Silver Street, Brownhills, Walsall, WS9 6GD

SAM 35yrs, own home, likes walking, tennis dressing up and married, seeks discreet man for casual meetings. Can travel anywhere. ACA Tel No: 0906 002 1949 Box No: 408297

KIM 25yrs feminine, pretty, big blue eyes, GSOH, varied interests, likes romantic beach walks, cosy nights in, seeking honest loving man for Irl. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411595

RITA naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens, you only live once remember. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411599

CAROL young 47, caring, loyal, likes music, concerts, cinema, theatre, seeks male with similar interests for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411919

SUSIE, 38, married, adventurous/dominant lady, 38yrs, seeks discreet man any age/area for no strings fun. Tel: 0905 002 1945 Box No: 412285

PROFESSIONAL black lady, likes cooking, music, countryside, seeking honest, reliable gent, possibly farmer for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411329

LINDA single and living alone, attractive, young looking, bubbly, WLMT similar young at heart companion to be close with, no shags and financial dates. Tel: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411768

WIDOW 68, 5ft 5ins, medium build, attractive, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks nice, N/S male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411745

JAYNE young at heart lady, active, 70 plus, N/S, GSOH, likes walks, gardening, cutting, WLMT similar, caring male, 69-74 for companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411711

SUSAN 64, lively, seeking mate for friendship, maybe more. 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411329

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Keane is edged out on points decision

WALSALL'S Christopher Keane lost vital ground in the race for the British cruiserweight title with a razor-thin eliminator defeat away from home, writes Craig Birch.

The Midlands title-holder travelled to Swindon's Oasis Leisure Centre and into the back-yard of Southern counterpart Lawrence Bennett on Saturday.

That very same night, Ovill McKenzie unified the British and Commonwealth belts in Newcastle with a second round stoppage of Jon-Lewis Dickinson.

Keane was unable to capitalise in Wiltshire thanks to the judges, two out of three going with Bennett for his split decision win after a scrappy 10-rounder.

Mike Alexander scored it 96-95 in favour of Keane, but Jeff Hind and Howard Foster recorded a super-wide 99-92 and 98-94 for Bennett respectively.

Keane, with double the pro experience of his opponent, had spent most of the 10 rounds trying to blast his opponent out of there.

Bennett jabbed his way to safety as Keane loaded up with right hooks which seldom found the target, forcing the West Midlander to switch hit.

Win shirt delivered by legend

ASTON Villa are offering the fans the fantastic opportunity to have the new 2014-15 away shirt hand-delivered by a member of the 1982 European Cup winning squad.

The shirt, which features a white body with a pinstripe design to pay homage to the famous jersey worn by legends such as Gordon Cowans, Peter Withe and Ken McNaught in Rotterdam, is available to pre-order from until Tuesday, July 8.

Fans who pre-order the shirt will be entered into a draw to have their shirt delivered by one of the legends. One hundred lucky winners will then be selected and will receive their new away shirt on Sunday, July 13.

Please note that due to operational logistics, we are only able to offer this promotion to supporters living within a 20-mile radius of Villa Park. Terms and conditions apply.

Pair heading out to Rio

TWO Midlands players are chasing glory at the FIFA Interactive World Cup (FIWC) Grand Final in Rio de Janeiro.

Ty Walton, from Redditch, and David Bytheway, from Wolverhampton, have qualified to represent England at the FIFA Interactive World Cup (FIWC) Grand Final.

This year is the first year the Grand Final is to be held in the same country and same time as the World Cup. David, aged 20, is ranked 23rd in the world and 21 year old Ty, ranked 19th. For information, go to: www.fifa.com/fiwc or www.twitter.com/fiwc.

Jordanne smashes way to second title



Jordanne Whiley has won her second title

BRITAIN'S wheelchair tennis star Jordanne Whiley has won the second Grand Slam title of her career at Roland Garros.

Whiley, from Halesowen who is now ranked No.2 in the world, was partnering Japan's Yui Kamiji to win the women's doubles wheelchair tennis title.

The battling pair ended up beating Dutch top seeds Jiske Griffioen and Aniek van Koot 7-6(3), 3-6, (10-8) in a thrilling final which saw Whiley having to stop to make adjustments to the straps which aid her stability.

It's the second successive Grand Slam title for the Whiley and Kamiji, who won the women's doubles at the Australian Open in January after ending 2013 by winning the Doubles Masters in California, USA.

The second seeds took a 5-3 lead in Paris and came within two points of taking the

Tennis

first set in both the tenth and twelfth games, but Griffioen and van Koot, who won all four Grand Slam titles in 2013, dug deep and forced the eventual winners into a tie-break.

However, Whiley and Kamiji didn't look back after taking a 4-2 lead in the tie-break and converted the first of three set points.

Whiley and Kamiji went on to race to a 3-0 second set lead, but defending champions Griffioen and van Koot forced the deciding match tie-break.

The British-Japanese duo took a 4-1 lead in the decider, before Griffioen and van Koot drew level at 6-6 and 8-8.

It was then that Whiley was having to recover from having one of the straps that

helps her stability in her tennis wheelchair break at 8-8. However, she and Kamiji ultimately held firm to clinch their first match point and seal a fine victory.

"I can't believe it, I'm so pleased to win our second Grand Slam title together," said Whiley.

"It was such a tense final and the break at 8-8 in the match tie-break after my strap broke allowed me to calm my nerves, so it must have been fate," added Whiley.

"After being a member of the GB team that finished with a silver medal behind the Netherlands last weekend at the World Team Cup, this is a fabulous way to end two very big weeks."

"It's another major success helped by the amazing support I get from the Tennis Foundation and UK Sport through National Lottery funding".

Saddlers looking to take on 60 workers

DOZENS of jobs are being created at Walsall Football Club as it aims to host more conferences and events.

A new club lounge is opening this month, and the Saddlers today said they are taking on up to 60 workers to run the bars, kitchens and kiosks.

The Banks's Stadium already hosts weddings, dinners, cabaret shows and private functions - and chiefs say the recruitment drive will make it one of the leading venues in the Midlands.

It comes as the 1888 Club lounge prepares to open, creating another 10 jobs.

The suite will feature a pitch view, a bar and five television screens.

Bosses say the new staff are being taken on to deal with an influx of bookings and a predicted rise in demand in the run-up to Christmas. They will be a mix of full and part time positions.

Commercial manager Nina Best said: "The club is something that we have been planning for, for a long time and now the dream is starting to become a reality.

"We are delighted with the progress that has been made and the work is on schedule.

"When finished, it's going to be an exclusive members' room where business and pleasure will go hand-in-hand in stylish surroundings that overlook the pitch. Members of the 1888 Club will be guaranteed a premium, padded seat for all home league, cup and pre-season fixtures within the main stand."

Miss Chambers added:

"We are looking for vibrant,

enthusiastic people to work within our Conference & Events team."

"These are positive times for the club and with up to 60 new jobs being created, it is also positive for the town as a whole."

"This strengthens our position as one of the leading employers in the borough - we're evolving all of the time and the summer development of the 1888 Club is another significant boost for us."

The 1888 Club will cater for up to 100 members and costs £1,000 per season.

Miss Chambers added:

"If you are over the age of 17 and looking to work in the Hospitality industry, you will get no better grounding than here."

At Banks's Stadium chairman Wendy Juggins and chief executive Neil Juggins get ready to present the Premier Division League Winners Trophy, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary, to Lye Town

Lye earn a place on anniversary trophy



At Banks's Stadium chairman Wendy Juggins and chief executive Neil Juggins get ready to present the Premier Division League Winners Trophy, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary, to Lye Town

Brum riders bring the points back home

BIRMINGHAM Monarchs, cycle speedway club carried on the impressive run this season as they took the points back to Perry Barr after a tough encounter with Coventry.

Heat one saw honours shared as Nathan Groves took the flag for Birmingham with Drewett and Pietak filling in behind. Heat two saw some great team riding as Andy James rolled back the years and took the win with skipper Chris Timms taking second for a 7-3 for the away side.

Heat four saw the home side get their first win of the afternoon and close the gap to two points between the sides as Konrad Pietak took the win though a tough pass by McLaughlin on Hodkinson could of seen the Coventry veteran excluded on another day. Heat five saw Birmingham claim a

6-4 as Mark Winwood to beat Polish rider Dominik Rycharski as Paul Timms got the better of Drewett with a fine pass. Heat six saw the Andy James and Chris Timms pairing take a second 7-3 maximum for Birmingham this time over Kyle Roberts who was right behind for the four laps and Tom Sensical.

Heat nine just before the interval saw the third maximum 7-3 this time Steve Hodkinson taking the win with Chris Timms second and putting Birmingham 51-39 ahead at the break.

Heat 10 saw Coventry claim their first 7-3 of the day as Sensical and Rycharski lowered the colours of Paul Timms and Andy James. Then a 6-4 in the next heat saw the Warwickshire side get to six points behind as Myke Grimes took the flag ahead of Mill-

ward and Carl Winwood. Heat twelve saw Birmingham stop the rot with Chris Timms passing Konrad Pietak on the last corner of the last lap to take a 6-4 for the Monarchs. Heat fourteen saw the away sides final 7-3 as Paul Timms took the win with Scott Millward fitting i just behind. Coventry hit back with a 7-3 themselves but then shared heats meant that Birmingham took the win 94-86.

The final heat saw drama as Mark Winwood and Myke Grimes touched with Grimes taking a tumble with Scott Millward hitting the rider with nowhere to go. The re-run saw Millward and Sensical clash in the first bend and both riders went down but both dusted themselves off and completed the final heat.

In the combination fixture Coventry took

the win with Josh Marsh looking impressive with 17 points. Birmingham had Chris Callow and Ewan Hancox who both are looking sharp and getting better with every meeting. Coventry 86: Pietak 16, Drewett 7, Grimes 16, Lawrence 7, Roberts 12, Sensical 9, McLaughlin 5, Rycharski 14

Monarchs 94: Groves 14, M. Winwood 13, C. Timms 17, James 13, Millward 14, C. Winwood 7, Hodkinson 6, P. Timms 10

Coventry 70: Williams 13, Sawridge 5, Dickinson 3, Barnett 13, Marsh 17+1, Morris 12+1, Walters 7+1

Monarchs 60: Callow 15+1, N. Timms 4, Widdas 10+1, Hancox 12+1, Stevenson 5, Phipps 4+1, Pitt 4, R. Winwood 6

Wood are already back in training

AFTER last season's very creditable sixth place Walsall Wood are already back in training for next season.

At the recent presentation evening Harry Harris was crowned leading goalscorer and he also won the Midland Alliance goal of the season trophy for his superb volleyed goal against Tipton Town.

Skipper Lee Stretton was voted Supporters Player of the Year and he also won the award for the most Man of the Match nominations. The Players Player of the Year trophy this year was won by Anthony Juxon, he was also the Manager's Player of the Year. Wood have a full friendly fixture list starting with an away game at Willenhall Town on Saturday July 5.

Then it's a visit to Walsall Phoenix on Tuesday July 8, Saturday July 12 sees them away at Coventry Copsewood before the first home game on Tuesday July 15 when Hednesford Town are at Oak Park. Followed on Saturday 19th by Richard Sneeker and his Rushall Olympic. Tuesday 22nd sees last season's Champions Tividale come visiting before Wood go travelling to Sporting Kalsoma on Saturday 26th. Romulus bring the curtain down when they visit Oak Park

Dodgeball contest in the region

THE UK Dodgeball Championships are coming to the Midlands later this month.

On Sunday June 29 the annual competition to find the number one dodgeball team in the country is being run by the UK Dodgeball Association with The NIA Sports & Leisure Centre, Birmingham.

UKDBA Director of Competitions, Nick Pinnock said: "Dodgeball is very strong in the Midlands, so this is a great opportunity to showcase the top level of the sport in the heart of dodgeball."

The tournament will start play at 10am and the Finals will be played just after 5.30pm. Spectators can watch the whole day's play for £5 each, students for £2.50 (SU ID required) and under-16's £1.

For more information on the UK Dodgeball Championships and UK dodgeball please go online to www.ukdba.org, contact UKDBA on 01438 791005 or email info@ukdba.org.

Drayton Manor Sponsors Bears

DRAYTON MANOR THEME PARK is set for the international sports stage after it agreed a major sponsorship deal as the official theme park of Warwickshire County Cricket Club.

The three-year partnership includes renaming the Priory Stand at the 25,000-seat Edgbaston Stadium as the Drayton Manor Family Stand.

In addition, the park's logo will feature on the stadium scoreboard, website, and on scorecards for matches at Edgbaston, as well as on tickets. This summer Edgbaston hosts international fixtures against India and Sri Lanka.

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Albion in battle to retain Thorne

ALBION are braced for a summer-long struggle over George Thorne despite dismissing an opening £950,000 bid from Derby.

The Baggies rebuffed the offer on Monday night and told Rams chief executive Sam Rush not to bid again.

But the East Midlands club are already thought to be preparing a second bid and Thorne is keen on the move after impressing during a five-month loan spell at the iPro Stadium last season.

And that means Albion still face a fight to keep the 21-year-old despite issuing a hands-off warning on all of their players last night following bids for Thorne and Craig Dawson in recent days.

Terry Burton, speaking publicly for the first time as Baggies technical director said: "George has progressed through the academy into the first-team squad and we have high hopes for him. He underlined his potential while on loan at Derby and we have no intentions of selling him. We have told Derby he is not for sale and that is the end of the matter as far as we're concerned."

"The same goes for all of our players. We are not looking to sell anyone. Our only aim is to strengthen our squad this summer."

Get back form call to Doyle

WOLVES striker Kevin Doyle has been urged to get back to the player he was by Ireland boss Martin O'Neill.

Doyle scored Ireland's goal with a bullet header from distance in Friday's 1-1 draw with Costa Rica, the first of two friendlies Ireland are playing in the United States, with Portugal in New Jersey tomorrow.

It was his first for his country since he scored against Oman in September 2012 and his 13th in 58 internationals.

Doyle is hoping for another chance in the Premier League.

It was his second promotion of the season after winning a League One title winner's medal, scoring three goals in 23 appearances for Wolves.

Doyle has struggled to show the form that made him such a coveted asset at Wolves.

Mantom rumoured as possible captain

SAM Mantom has admitted to being flat-lined by talk of the Walsall captaincy but insists it will not prove a distraction.

The 22-year-old midfielder, whose performances last term saw him crowned the Saddlers player of the season, is one of several players in the frame to replace Andy Butler following the former skipper's switch to Shiffield United.

Mantom is not fazed by the possibility of being handed the armband but says his main focus remains on improving as a player.

"It's nice that my name is being thrown

Football

around and I'm delighted about that but all I want to do is just play well for Walsall," he said.

"I'm coming up to 100 league games and that's a good feat for someone my age.

"If I get given it (the armband) or not, I don't think it will affect me either way.

"I will have to have a chat with the gaffer and see what his thoughts are.

"Obviously we have got players here who have got great leadership qualities. It's nice to have your name thrown around but

there's nothing concrete at the minute."

Mantom was a virtual ever-present for the Saddlers last term, making 48 appearances.

And he admits there is a duty for the likes of him and Paul Downing - another of the team's young stars who could be considered for the captaincy - to show leadership on the field with Butler departed.

He added: "Obviously you have got to try to be a leader if you are playing week in, week out and people look up to you and respect you.

"It (the captaincy) is a big thing for us

but nothing has been said yet so we will have to take that when it comes."

Butler signed a two-year deal with Sheffield United last week and will officially join the Blades on July 1. Mantom is the fourth skipper to leave the former skipper.

"He's an awesome guy and an awesome player," he said. "As soon as I found out he was leaving I texted him and wished him all the best for the future.

"He just explained he couldn't do the travelling any more. It was taking a bit of a toll on him."

Change is exciting – Downing

PAUL DOWNING sees another summer of major change at Walsall as an exciting opportunity – and not something for fans to fret over.

The ever-improving central defender added his voice to those of Dean Smith's players backing the manager to turn up trumps in the transfer market.

For the third summer running, Smith is facing an overhaul with key figures Andy Butler and Craig Westcarr removed from the roster and doubts still about one of his top signings, left-back Andy Taylor, staying.

But Downing accepts those left behind must step up and take more responsibility as Smith once again tries to work the oracle in the transfer market on one of the third tier's tightest budgets.

He said: "I think you always have to be excited about a new season. We have had a positive two years and it's about taking the next step now."

"But it is exciting not knowing who we are going to bring in."

"We have not really signed anyone and I will be watching over the next few weeks."

Midlands trio are cup seeds

WOLVES, Walsall and Birmingham City have all been seeded for the Capital One Cup first round draw.

The three West Midlands teams are all in the southern half of the draw, which will be made next Tuesday at 10am.

The seedings mean they can't play each other at the first-round stage.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, June 12

LEGEND WALKER COULD SAVE CLUB

WALSALL FC's all-time record appearance holder is stepping in to help save an amateur team on the brink of closure.

Pelsall Villa FC, which has been running for 116 years, will fold unless people come forward to help run the club and stump up cash.

Former Saddlers goalkeeper Jimmy Walker has offered to hold a sportsman's evening to raise money – and bosses have said his input could save the club.

He was contacted by the club on Twitter and said he would like to get involved.

It is hoped Mr Walker, who made 534 appearances for Walsall, will appear at an event at Pelsall Social Club in late July and details are being arranged in the coming days.

Player manager Andrew Bentley said: "He asked if there was anything he could do so it looks like he will do this evening for us.

Speaker

"Usually it can cost up to a couple of thousand pounds to get a speaker in and organise it, so this would save us money and bring a lot in, which would sort us out for a while."

Members of the public have also emailed club chiefs offering to help at the ground since the local press reported on their plight last week.

Mr Bentley added: "Some people have said they could come and help so it's starting to look better now. It's all hands on deck because we have so much to do and not enough people."

Plans for the future will

Sun shines on Aldridge 10 kilometre runners



Staff and family members from Craig and Derricott, who were running for Compton Hospice

HUNDREDS of runners young and old pounded the streets in the sunshine for the annual Aldridge 10 kilometre road race.

Runners from across the Black Country, Staffordshire and Birmingham flocked to the streets of the town on Sunday to make the most of the good weather.

Whether testing their fitness, raising cash for charity or just enjoying the day, the event, organised by

Aldridge Running Club for the 23rd time, saw more than 600 competitors across all age groups.

In the early morning children's races 87 kids took part, while there were 71 entrants for the shorter 4.3km race, and a huge 450 for the main 10km event, which was started by Mayor of Walsall Councillor Mohammad Nazir.

One of those running the 10k race was 79-year-old John Summerton,

the oldest entrant.

From Handsworth Wood, Mr Summerton is a member of Birchfield Harriers running club, and despite only starting running at the age of 46 in 1981, he has completed 54 marathons, and has applied to do next year's London Marathon.

He said: "Running is a part of my life. I used to do more of these events, about eight or nine a year, but this is my last one this year."



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Mike Gahan, Chief Executive